



THE GOLDEN AGE

BATMAN

VOLUME THREE





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BOB KANE
WITH **JACK BURNLEY, FRED RAY, JERRY ROBINSON AND GEORGE ROUSSOS**
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BATMAN created by **BOB KANE** with **BILL FINGER.**



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BATMAN: THE GOLDEN AGE VOLUME 3

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*These titles were originally untitled and are titled here for reader convenience.

Until the 1970s, it was not common practice in the comic book industry to credit all stories. In the preparation of this collection, we have used our best efforts to review any surviving records and consult any available databases and knowledgeable parties. We regret the innate limitations of this process and any missing or misassigned attributions that may occur.



No. 57



The BATMAN

Detective

REG. U. S. PAT. OFF.

NOV.

COMICS



BATMAN

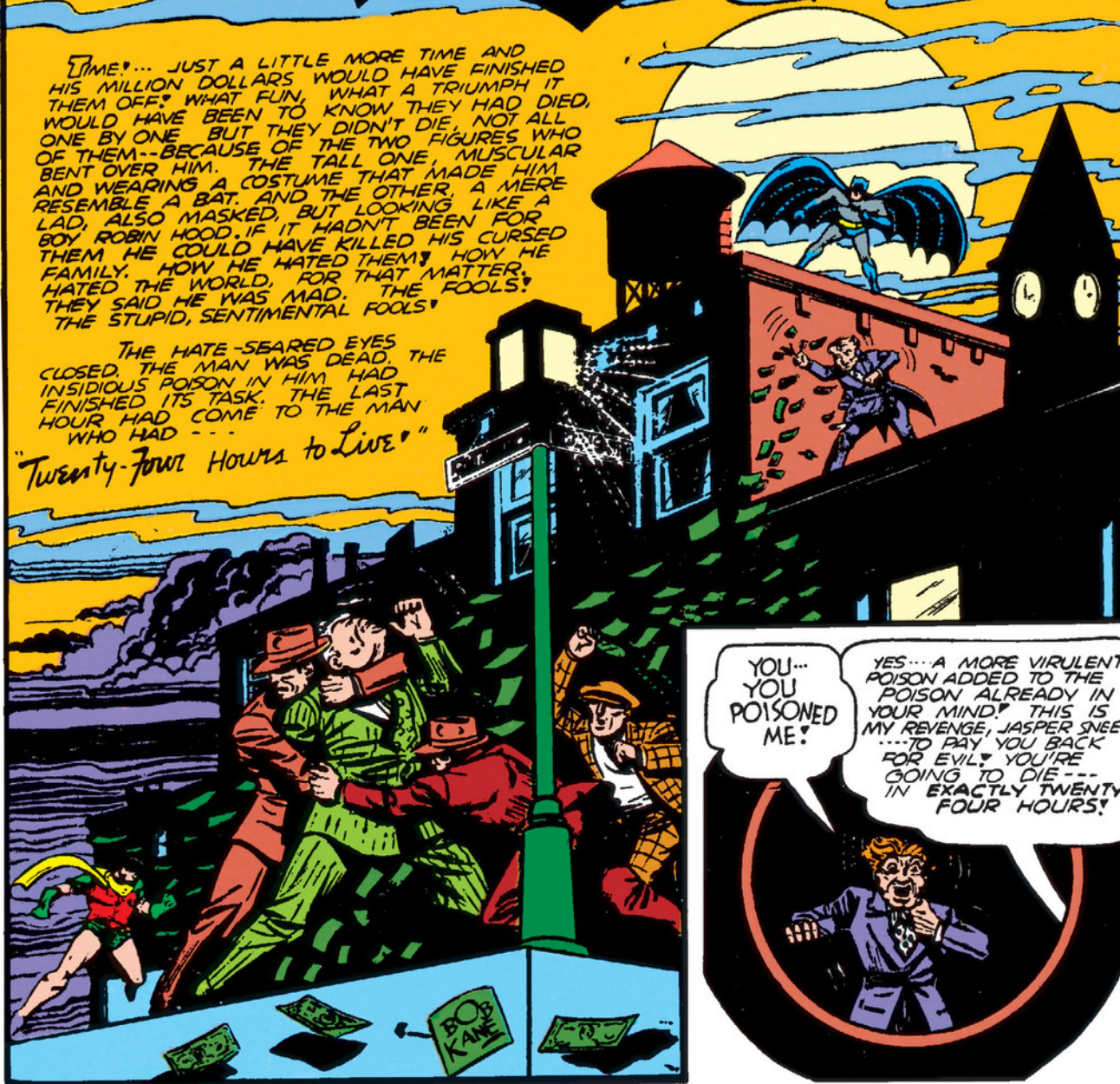
WITH
ROBIN

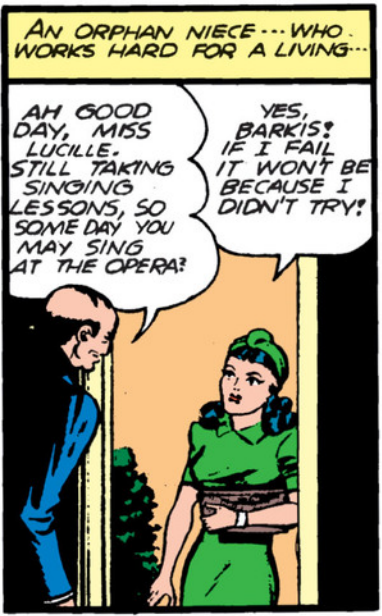
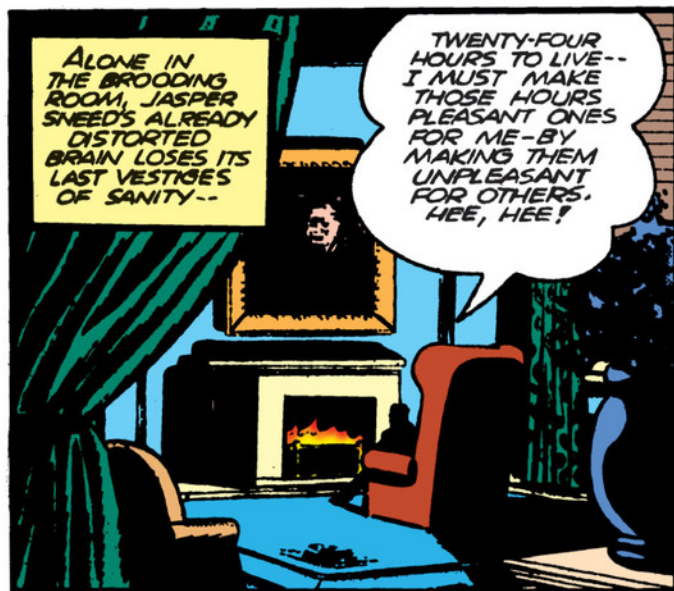
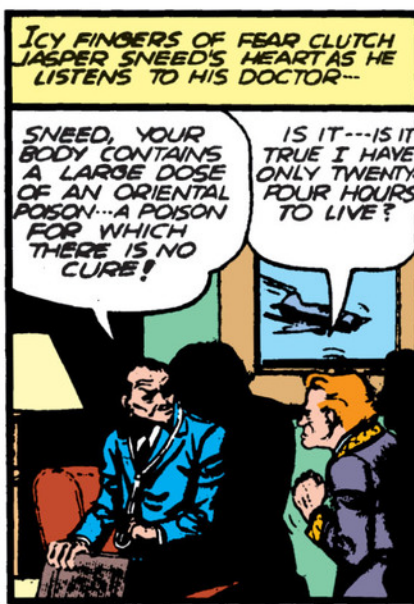
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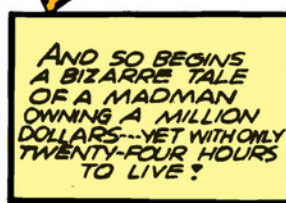
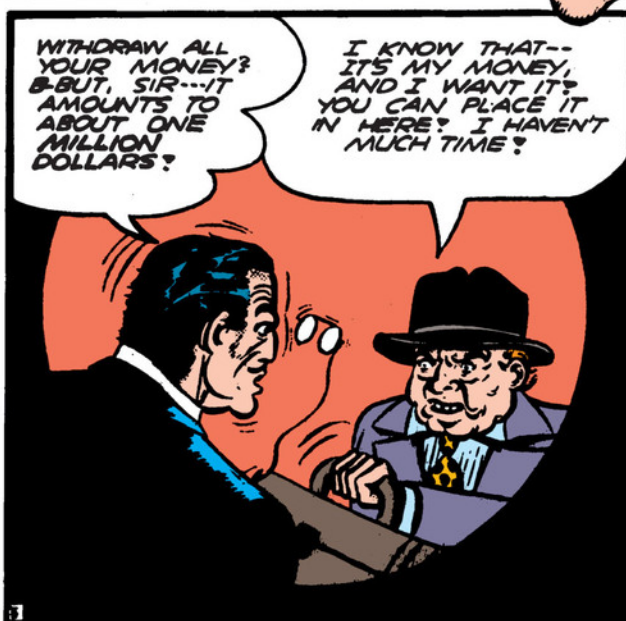
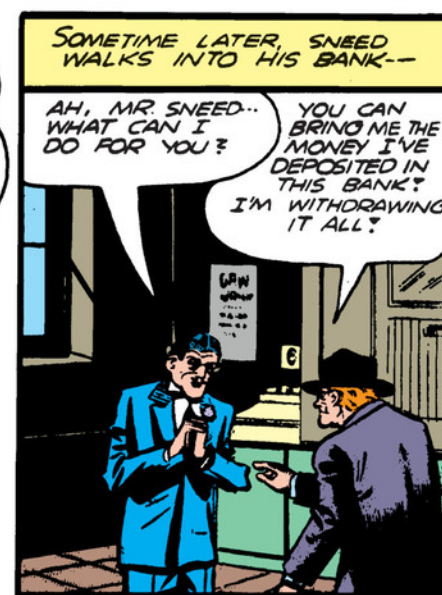
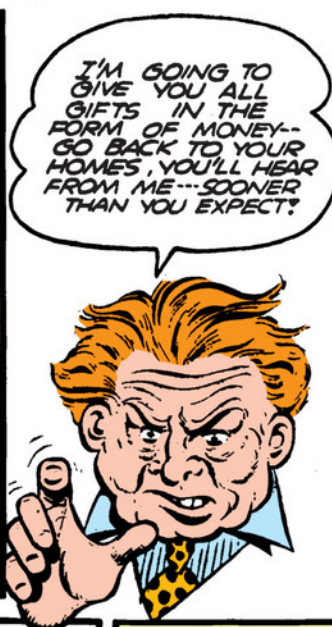
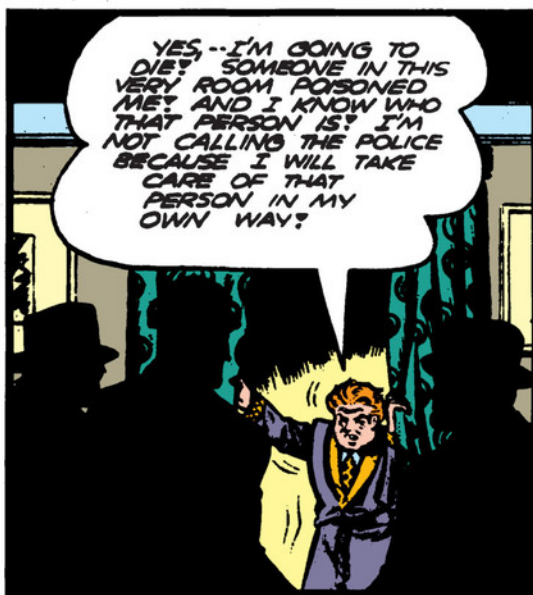
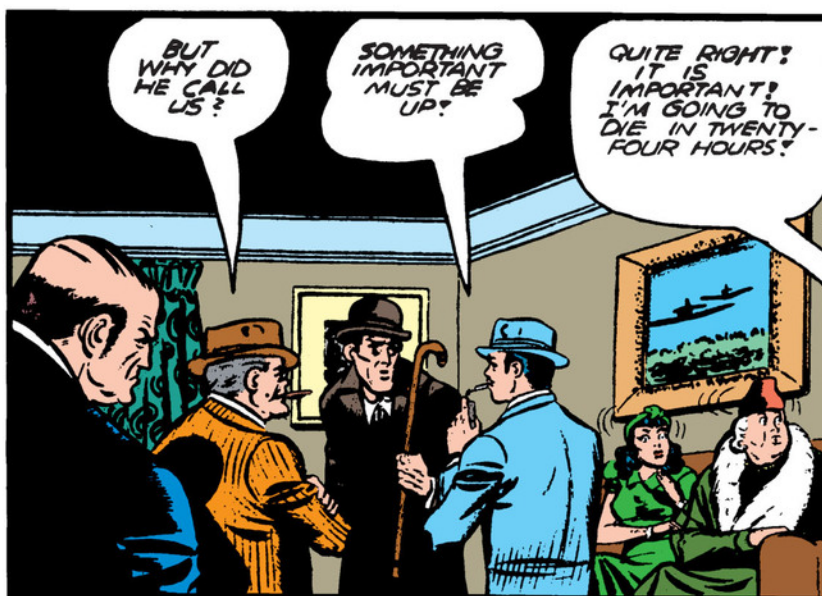
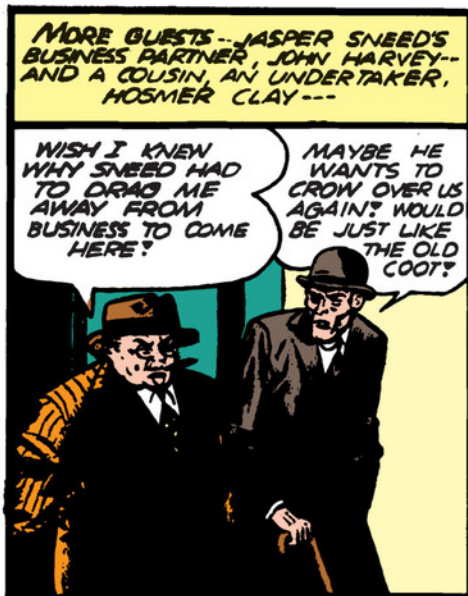
TIME!... JUST A LITTLE MORE TIME AND HIS MILLION DOLLARS WOULD HAVE FINISHED THEM OFF! WHAT FUN, WHAT A TRIUMPH IT WOULD HAVE BEEN TO KNOW THEY HAD DIED, ONE BY ONE, BUT THEY DIDN'T DIE, NOT ALL OF THEM--BECAUSE OF THE TWO FIGURES WHO BENT OVER HIM. THE TALL ONE, MUSCULAR AND WEARING A COSTUME THAT MADE HIM RESEMBLE A BAT, AND THE OTHER, A MERE LAD, ALSO MASKED, BUT LOOKING LIKE A BOY ROBIN HOOD. IF IT HADN'T BEEN FOR THEM HE COULD HAVE KILLED HIS CURSED FAMILY. HOW HE HATED THEM! HOW HE HATED THE WORLD, FOR THAT MATTER. THEY SAID HE WAS MAD. THE FOOLS! THE STUPID, SENTIMENTAL FOOLS!

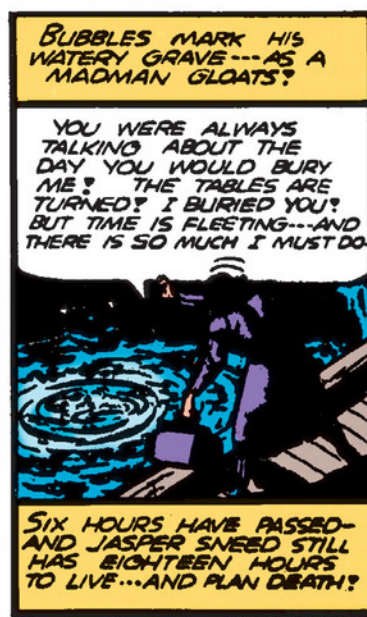
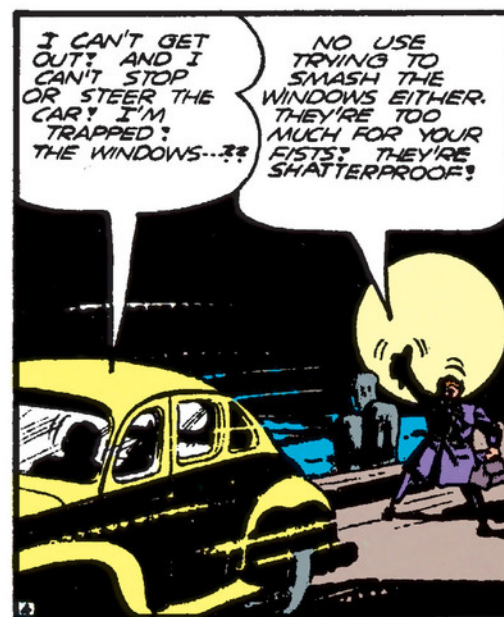
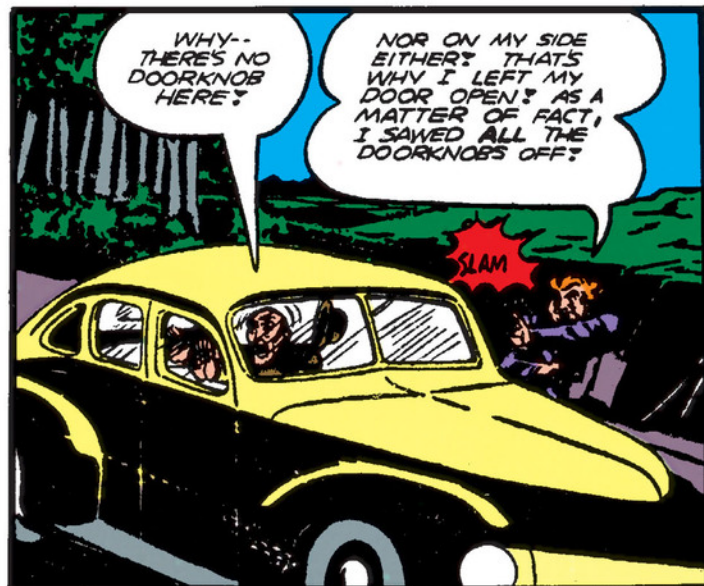
THE HATE-SEARED EYES CLOSED. THE MAN WAS DEAD. THE INSIDIOUS POISON IN HIM HAD FINISHED ITS TASK. THE LAST HOUR HAD COME TO THE MAN WHO HAD ---

"Twenty-four Hours to Live!"









SNEED NEXT VISITS THE HANGOUT OF A NOTORIOUS CRIMINAL--

I WANT TO BUY THE SERVICES OF SOME MEN WHO CAN DO A JOB RIGHT! AND KEEP THEIR MOUTH SHUT!

A T'OUSAND DOLLAR BILL? T'ANKS-- FOLLOW ME.



I HOLD \$100,000 IN MY HAND - BUT THE BILLS ARE CUT IN HALF? DO WHAT I ASK AND YOU'LL GET THE OTHER HALVES?

A HUNDRED GRAND? OKAY, MISTER...WHO DO YOU WANT RUBBED OUT?



I WANT MY BUSINESS PARTNER, JOHN HARVEY, KILLED? HE TRIED TO STEAL MONEY FROM MY CONCERN. HE HATES ME AND I HATE HIM? HE MUST DIE IN AN OLD ABANDONED STEEL MILL I OWN?



SNEED OUTLINES A DESIGN FOR MURDER--

...HE'S ALWAYS TAUNTING ME- HE LIKES TO SEE ME BURN UP? THIS TIME I WANT TO SEE HIM BURN UP FOR GOOD?

OKAY, BUD- WE'LL MAKE IT HOT FOR HIM!

AND HOW?



AT THAT VERY MOMENT, LUCILLE SNEED IS TELLING A GOOD FRIEND, LINDA PAGE, ABOUT HER UNCLE'S ODD TALK. ALSO LISTENING IS BRUCE WAYNE--

YOU MEAN, HE SAID HE WAS POISONED-- AND HAD ONLY TWENTY FOUR HOURS TO LIVE?

YES--AND THEN HE LAUGHED AND SAID HE WAS GOING TO GIVE US ALL GIFTS? I TELL YOU HE'S GONE MAD?

THE POOR FELLOW IS SUFFERING FROM DELUSIONS?



BUT LATER AT HIS HOME, BRUCE'S THOUGHTS SEEM VERY DIFFERENT AS HE SPEAKS TO HIS WARD, DICK GRAYSON--

YOU REALLY THINK THERE'S SOMETHING TO WHAT THE GIRL SAID?

YES--AND ONE MAN PROBABLY KNOWS MORE ABOUT SNEED THAN ANYONE ELSE--JOHN HARVEY, HIS BUSINESS PARTNER--



C'MON, THERE ARE A FEW QUESTIONS I MUST ASK JOHN HARVEY?



AND SOME MOMENTS LATER--

UH...WHY...N-NO...M-MR. HARVEY WENT OUT WITH S-SOME MEN...I T-THINK THEY WERE INTERESTED IN BUYING THE OLD STEEL MILL? AH-HEM... GULP...W-WHO SHALL I SAY C-CALLED?

SANTA CLAUS? LET'S GO, ROBIN. I'VE GOT A HUNCH WE'RE GOING TO SEE SOME ACTION?



MINUTES LATER---INSIDE THE ABANDONED STEEL MILL--

THE MILL IS STILL IN FINE SHAPE SO IF YOU WANT TO BUY....I...WHAT...?

I CHANGED MY MIND? I'M NOT BUYIN'-- I'M SELLING NOW? OKAY, BOYS---TIE HIM UP?

AN OLD FURNACE IS SOON ROARING WITH RENEWED LIFE--SO THAT IT MAY TAKE DEATH!

SHE'S GOING OKAY NOW, SILKY?

YEAH---NOW SHOVE THIS OLD GEEZER IN--AN' WE GO BACK AN' COLLECT THE REST OF THE DOUGH? SHOVE HIM IN?

SUDDENLY, A BAT-LIKE SHAPE DARTS FROM OUT OF THE SHADOWS---

ALL RIGHT, RATS---YOU CAN DISPENSE WITH THAT NOW?

THE BATMAN?

PLUG HIM!

BUT FROM A SUSPENDED CHAIN -- ANOTHER FIGURE SWINGS ACROSS THE VAST ROOM---

HEY---YOU FORGOT ME?

AH? VERY SATISFYING-- VERY SATISFYING, INDEED?

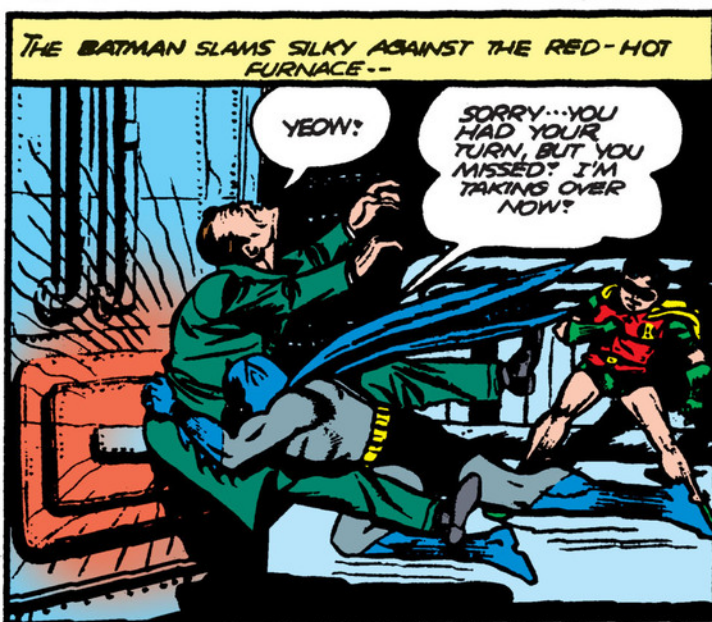
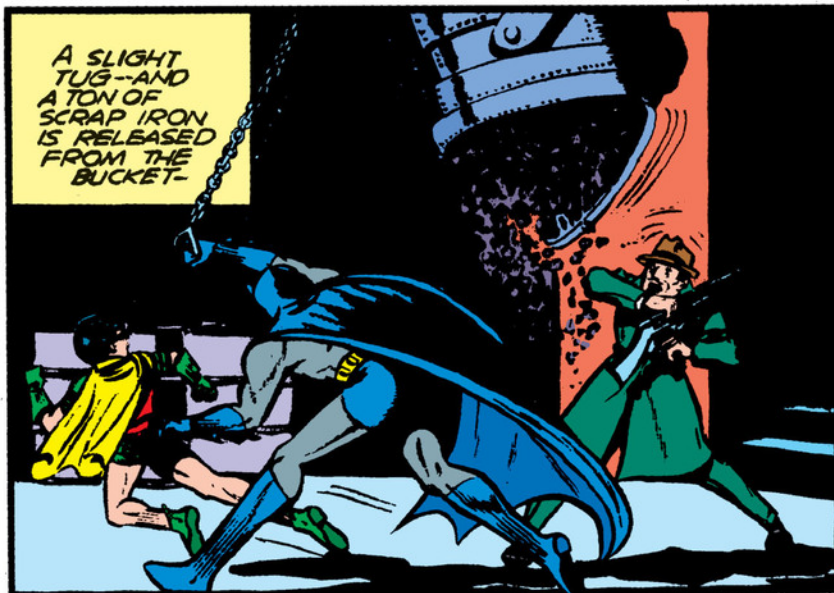
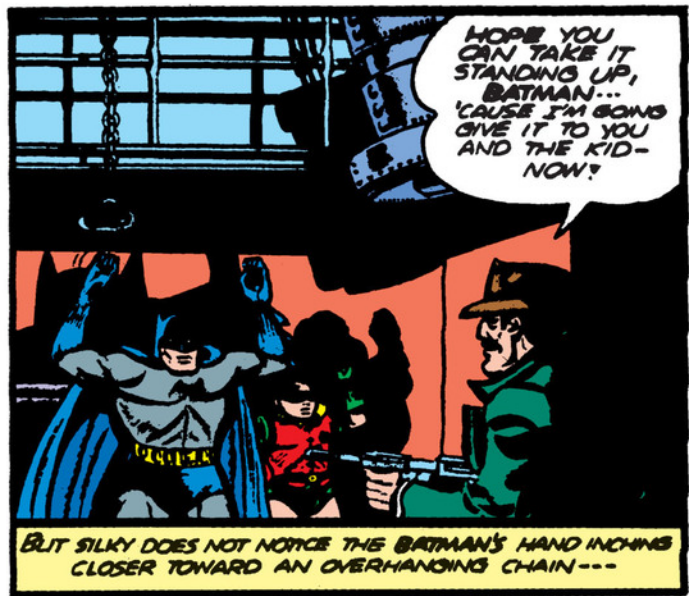
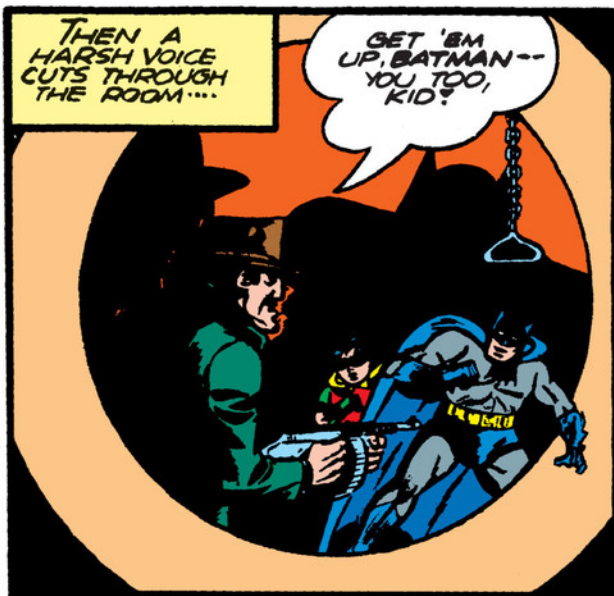
LOVELY WEATHER WE'RE HAVING LATELY, ISN'T IT?

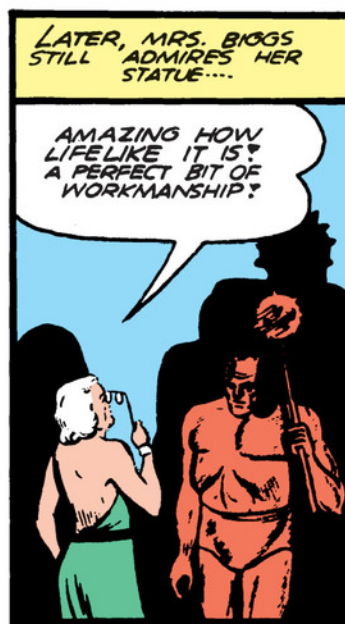
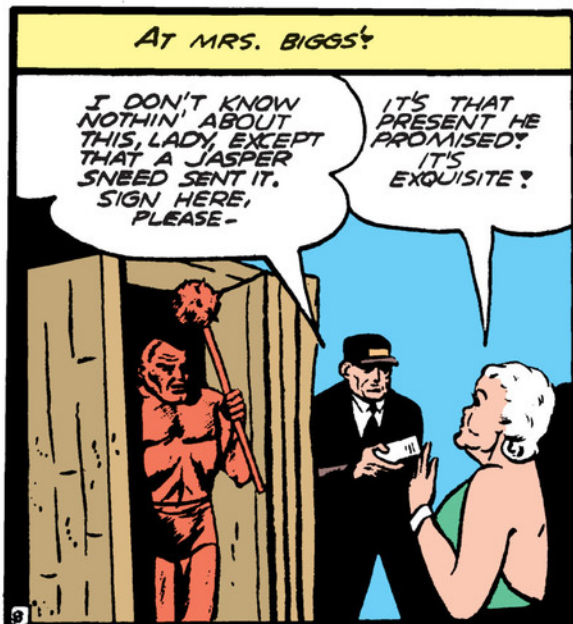
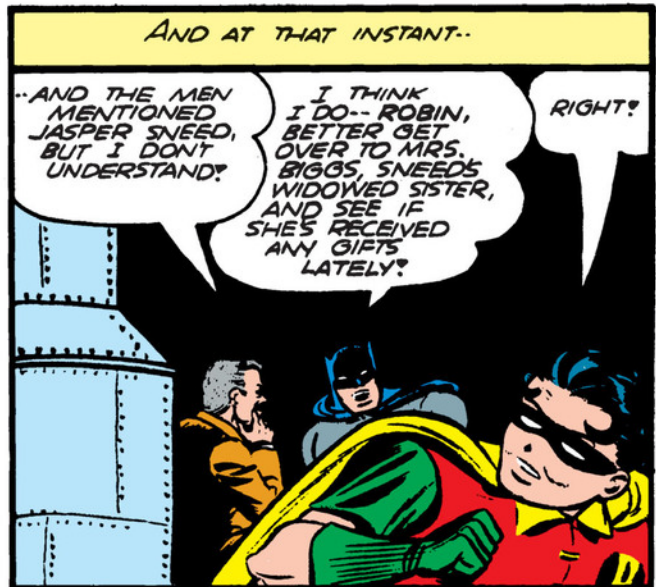
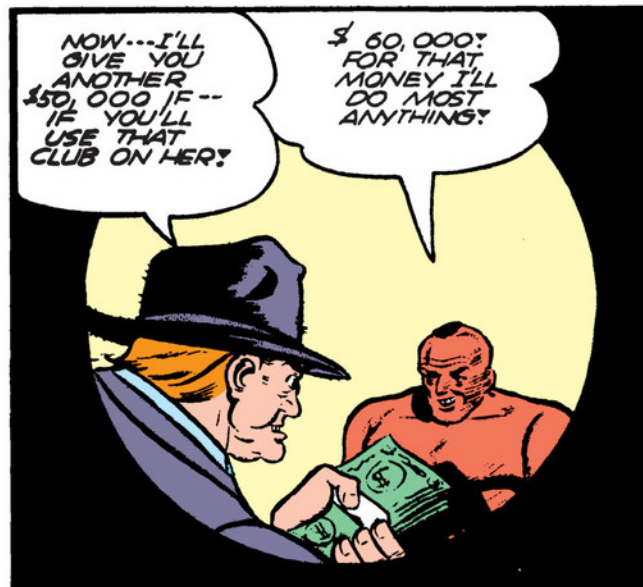
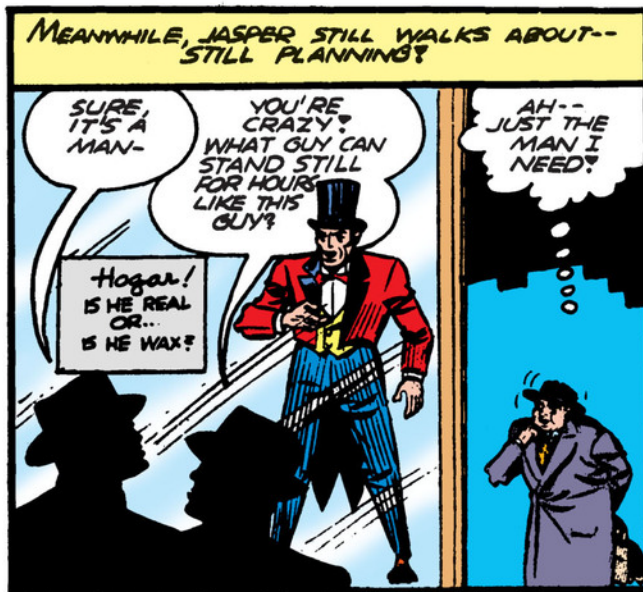
YA LITTLE BRAT? I'LL--

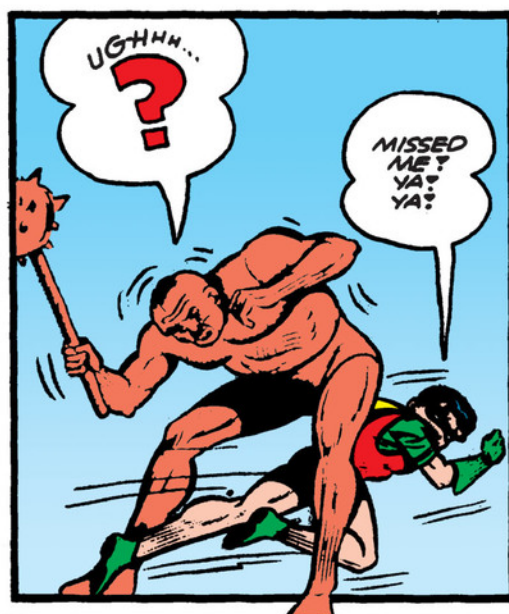
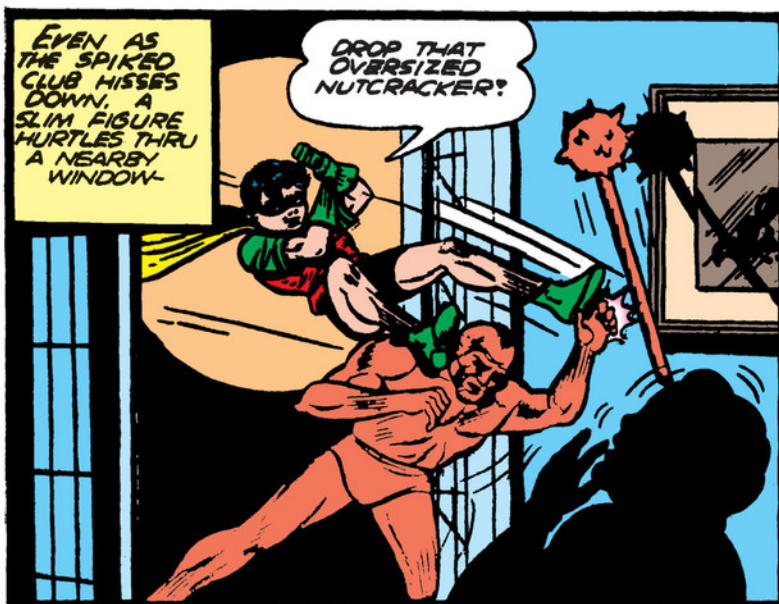
WOW? HE AIN'T FOOLING WITH THAT GUN?

YOU SHOULD TAKE MORE EXERCISE -- YOU'RE PUTTING ON WEIGHT?

PHHHFT!







MEANWHILE, SNEED IS AT AN EXCLUSIVE GOLFING CLUB HOUSE...

ARE YOU GOING TO ACCEPT MY OFFER...?

\$200,000 IS QUITE GENEROUS! WE'LL BE ABLE TO BUILD ANOTHER GOLF COURSE--

WE'LL LEAVE IT VACANT FOR YOU AS YOU REQUESTED THE GOLF COURSE IS YOURS?

NEXT, THE MADMAN RETURNS TO THE CRIMINAL HANGOUT...

SO THE OTHERS HAVEN'T RETURNED YET? NO DOUBT THE JOB IS TAKING THEM A LITTLE TIME? NO MATTER--NOW I WANT THREE MEN WHO CAN POSE AS GENTLEMEN.

SURE--ANYTHING FOR YOU, MISTER?

AND SOME MOMENTS LATER, IN MRS. BIGGS' RESIDENCE....

...AND THAT'S WHAT HAPPENED. WHERE HAVE YOU BEEN?

CHECKING UP ON THE SNEED FAMILY HISTORY?

OH, TO THINK THAT JASPER WOULD TRY TO KILL ME! THE PHONE IS RINGING!

STANLEY?

YES, MOTHER! I'VE JUST GOTTEN AN INVITATION FROM UNCLE JASPER TO JOIN THAT EXCLUSIVE GOLF CLUB. I'M GOING THERE FOR A ROUND NOW!

STANLEY? DON'T--DON'T GO! DON'T... HE... HE'S HUNG UP! HE DIDN'T HEAR ME!

SOMETHING TO DO WITH JASPER EH? GIVE US THE DETAILS. WE'LL SAVE YOUR SON!

SOMETIME LATER--ON THE TEE-OFF! STANLEY BIGGS IS IN THE COMPANY OF THE "CLUB" MEMBERS---

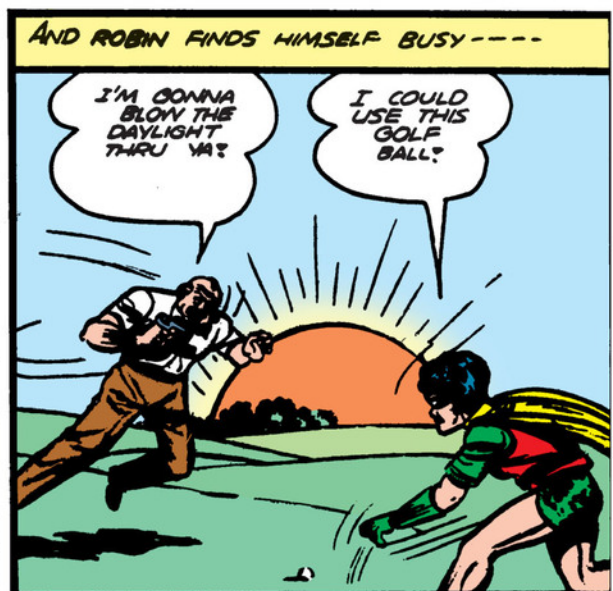
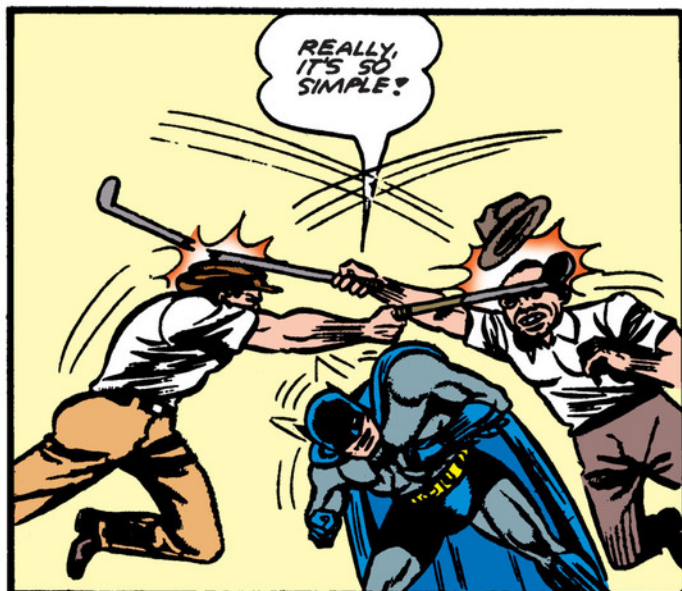
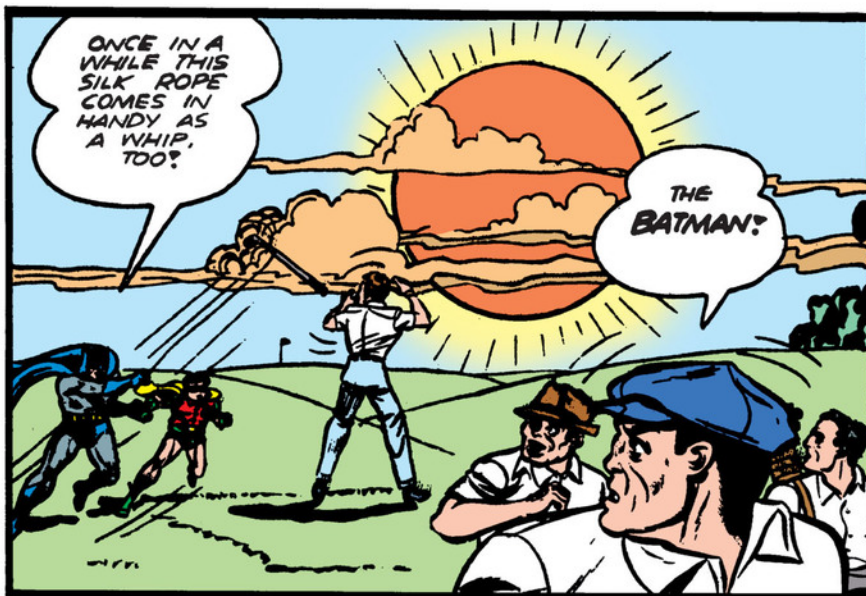
THE COURSE LOOKS EMPTY! BUT WHY ARE YOU STANDING BACK SO FAR?

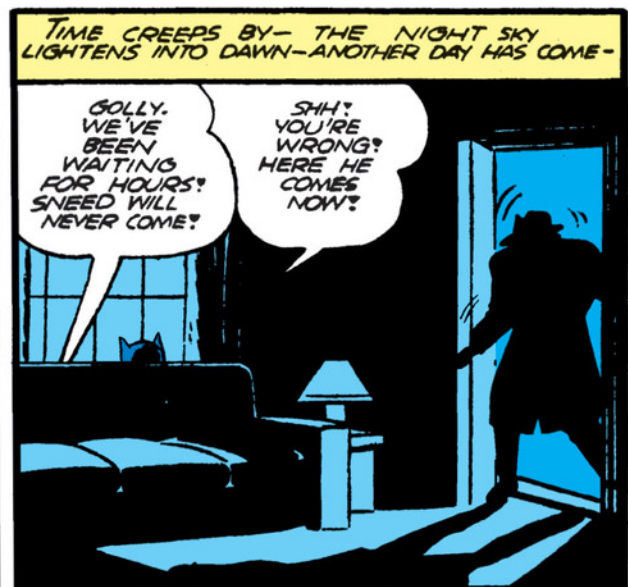
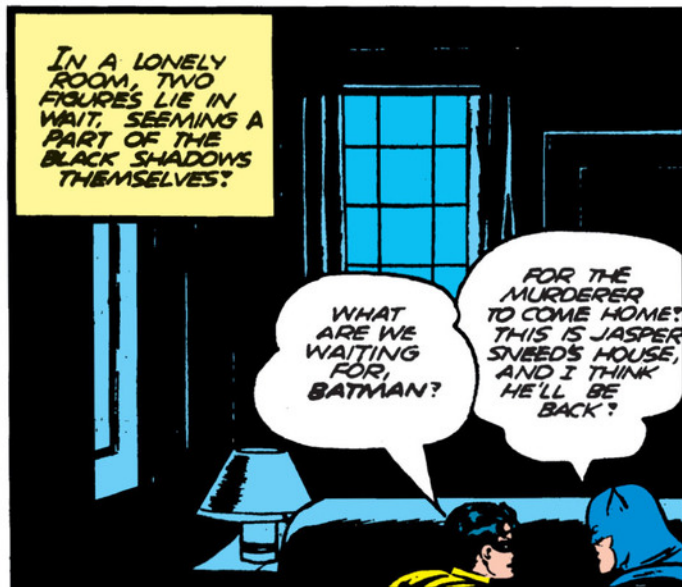
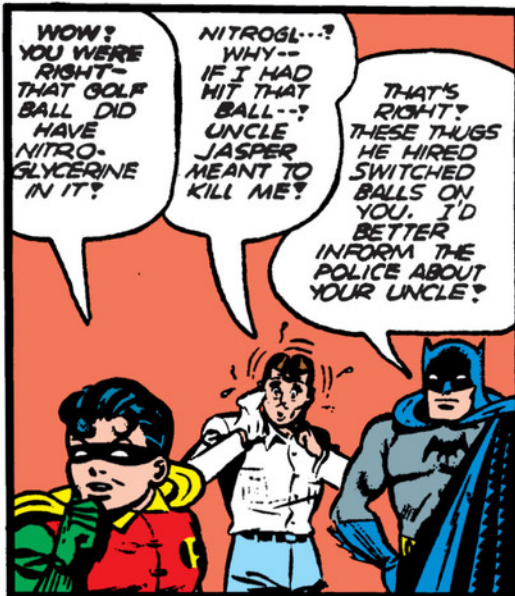
ER--IT'S THE CLUB RULE--MUST STAND A GOOD NUMBER OF FEET BACK OF THE TEE-OFF!

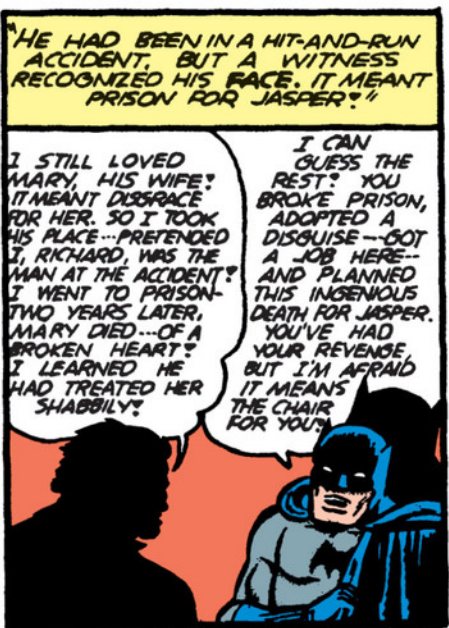
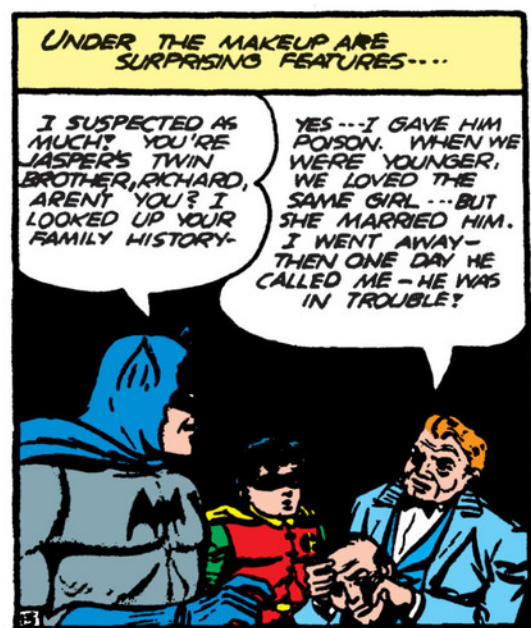
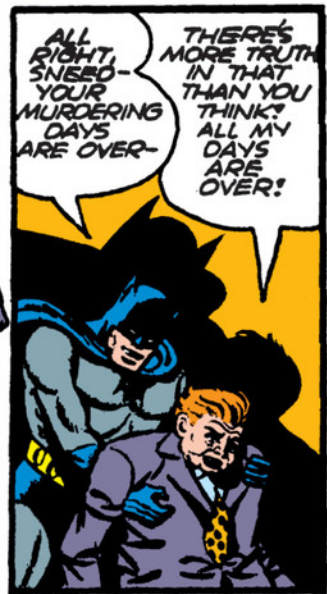
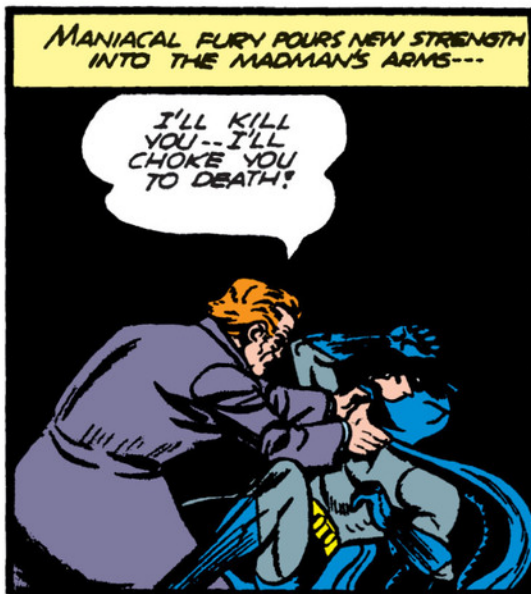
TAKING HIS STANCE, STANLEY DRAWS BACK HIS CLUB FOR A SMASHING DRIVE---

BUT SUDDENLY SOMETHING WHISTLES THRU THE AIR AND WHIPS THE CLUB OUT OF STANLEY'S HANDS?

WHAT?









No. 58

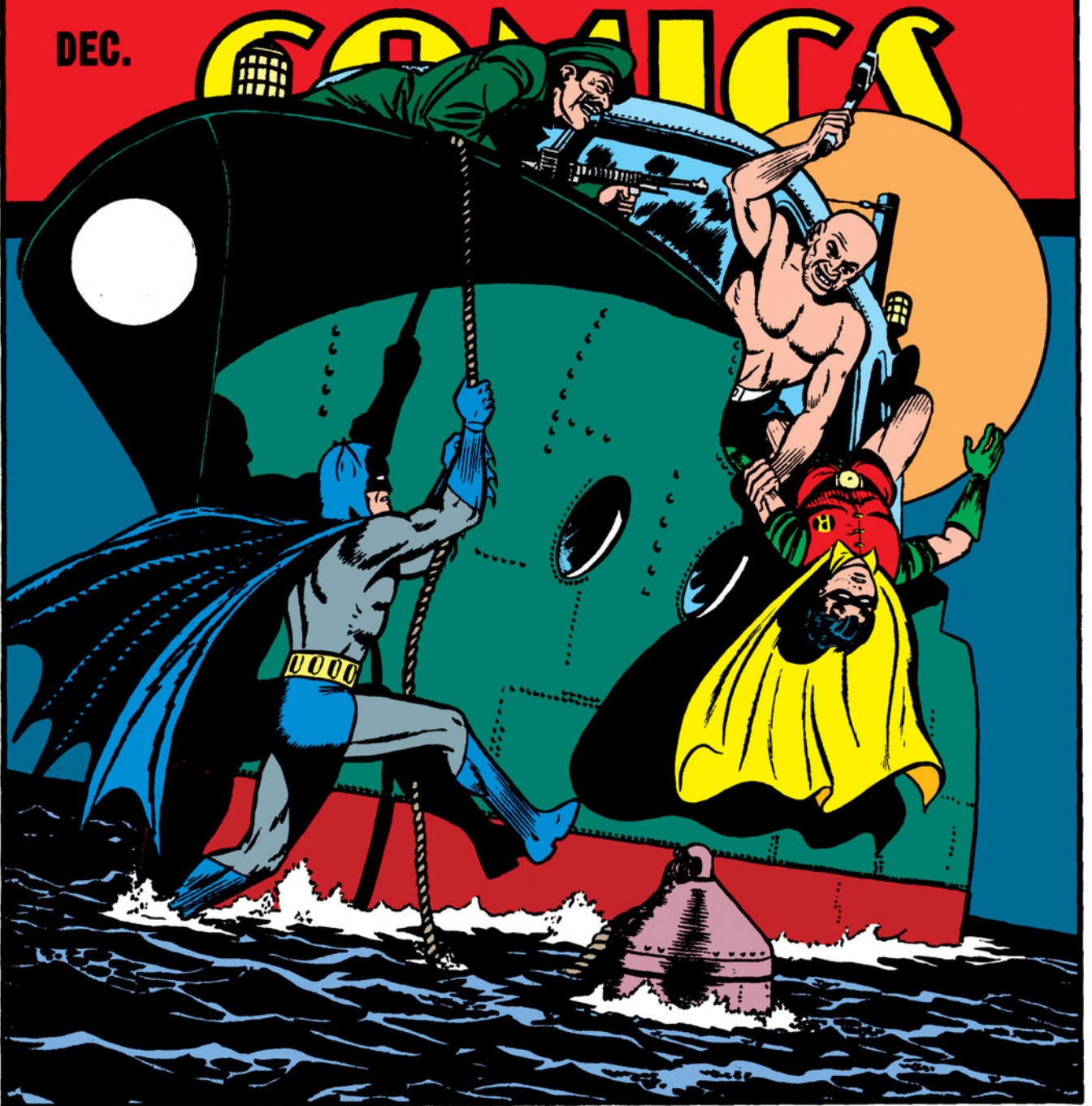


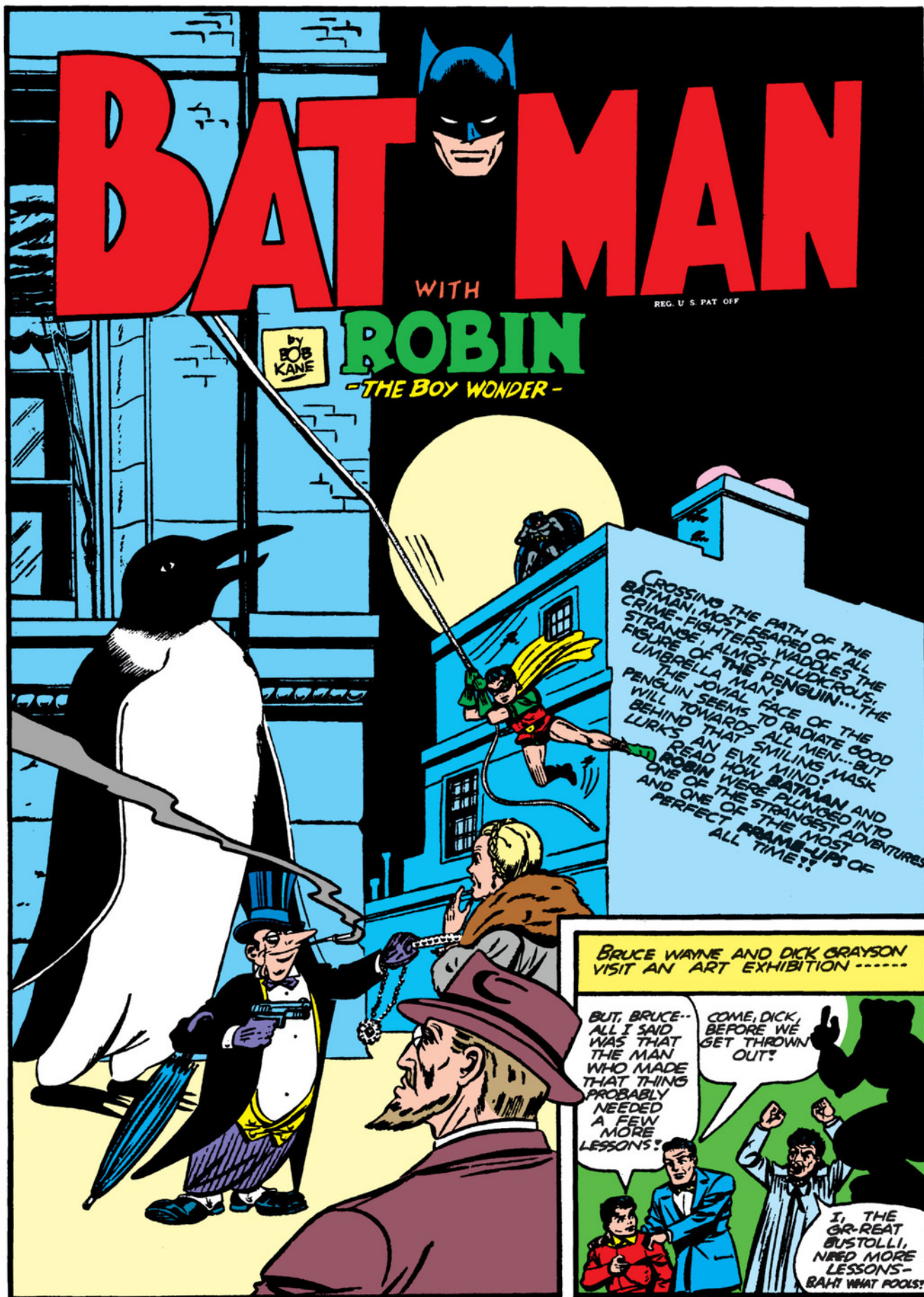
The **BATMAN**

Detective

DEC.

COMICS





DICK LEARNS THAT ART CAN BE EXPENSIVE.

YES, DICK, THESE TWO SMALL WATTEAUS ARE WORTH ROUGHLY A HALF MILLION DOLLARS BETWEEN THEM!

WHEW! MAYBE I OUGHT TO TAKE UP PAINTING?

BEAUTIFUL-- MARVELOUS-- GORGEOUS--

LET'S GO BACK. YOU REALLY MUST LEARN NOT TO LAUGH AT PEOPLE OR THINGS, BECAUSE THEY MAY BE--ER--ODD LOOKING?

BUT, BRUCE, LOOK FOR YOURSELF!

HA? HA? HE DOES LOOK LIKE A PENGUIN AT THAT?

SUDDENLY:

NOBODY CAN LEAVE! THE TWO WATTEAU PAINTINGS HAVE BEEN CUT FROM THEIR FRAMES AND STOLEN--WE WILL HAVE TO SEARCH EVERYONE HERE!

THOSE ARE THE VERY PAINTINGS WE JUST WERE ADMIRING!

GOSH!

RICH MAN--POOR MAN--BEGGARMAN--AND THIEF--ALL MUST SUBMIT TO THE SEARCH!

I'M AFRAID THIS IS GOING TO BE--ER--EMBARRASSING?

I DON'T MIND A-BEIN SEARCH! I ONLY HOPE -A DEY CATCH DA THIEF?

IT'S OUTRAGEOUS! IMAGINE SEARCHING ME?

CURSES! THERE GOES A MILLION DOLLARS!

COUNT PEREL? WHY, YOU'RE NOTHING BUT A PHONEY! GOODBYE!

LOOKS LIKE FINE FEATHERS DON'T ALWAYS MAKE FINE BIRDS?

BRUCE AND DICK SUBMIT UNCOMPLAININGLY TO BEING SEARCHED?

SORRY, MR. WAYNE, BUT WE GOTTA CHECK EVERYBODY!

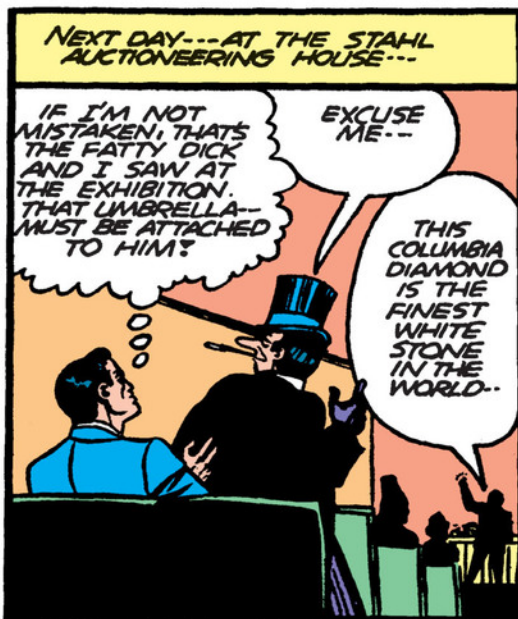
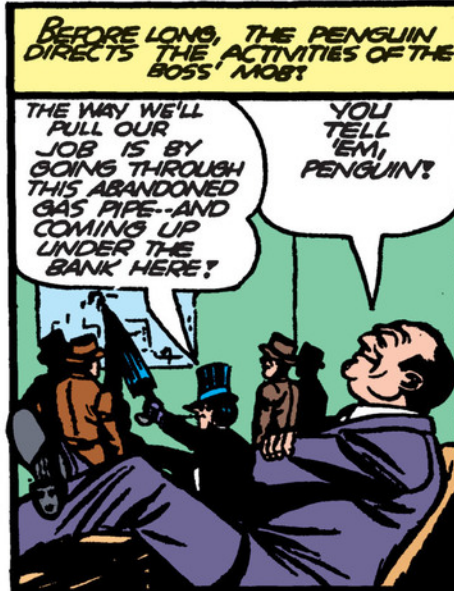
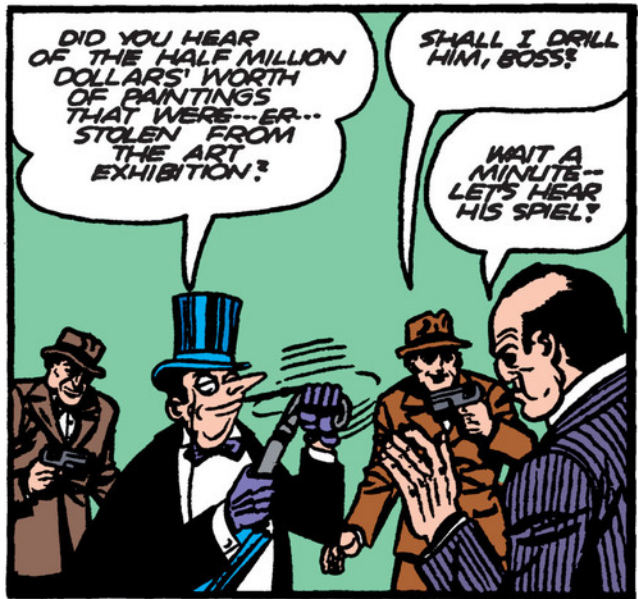
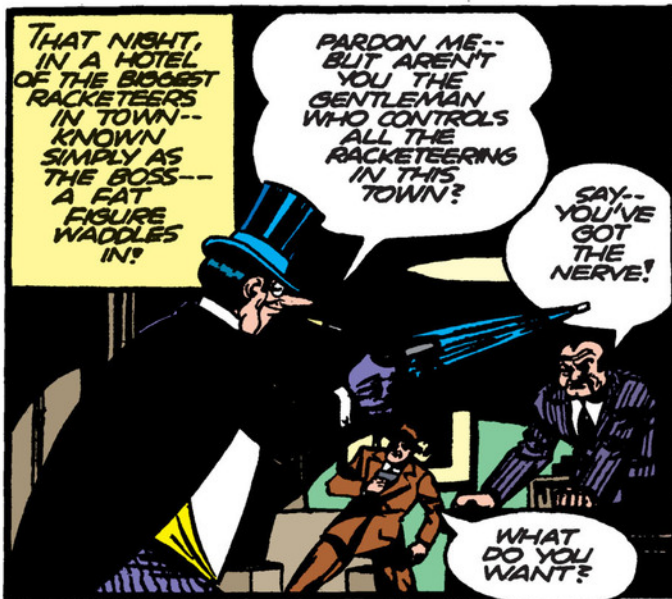
PERFECTLY ALL RIGHT, JONES?

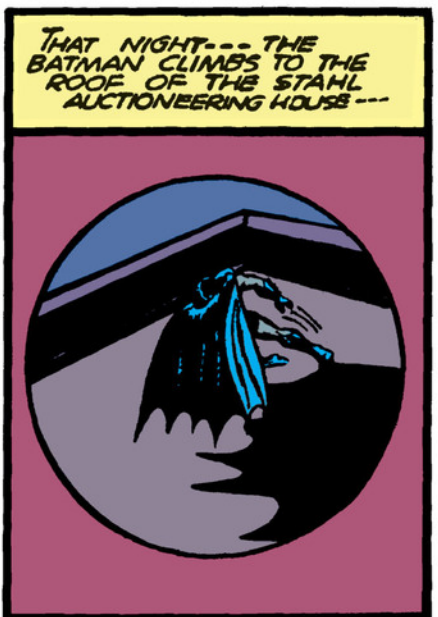
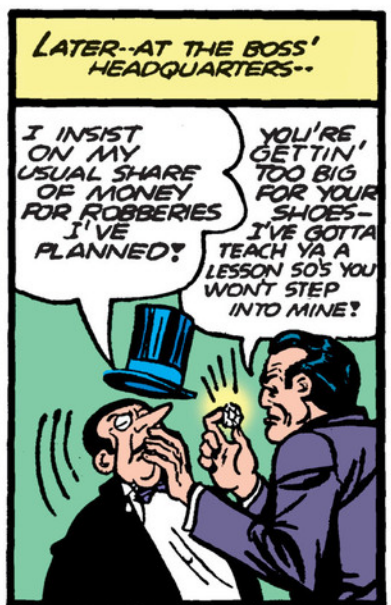
I'D TAKE OFF MY SHOES, BUT I'VE GOT A HOLE IN MY STOCKING.

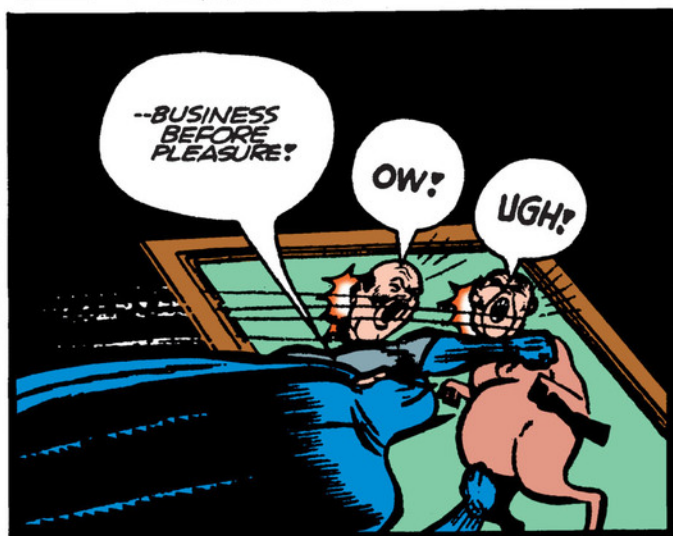
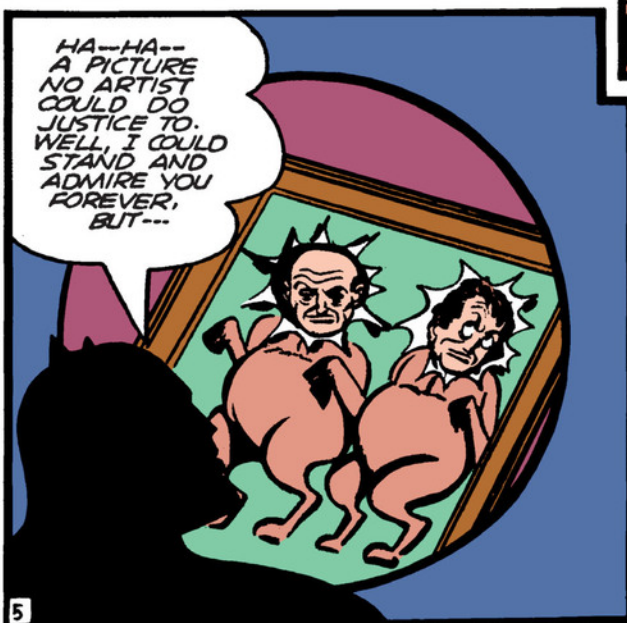
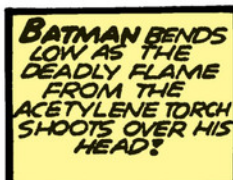
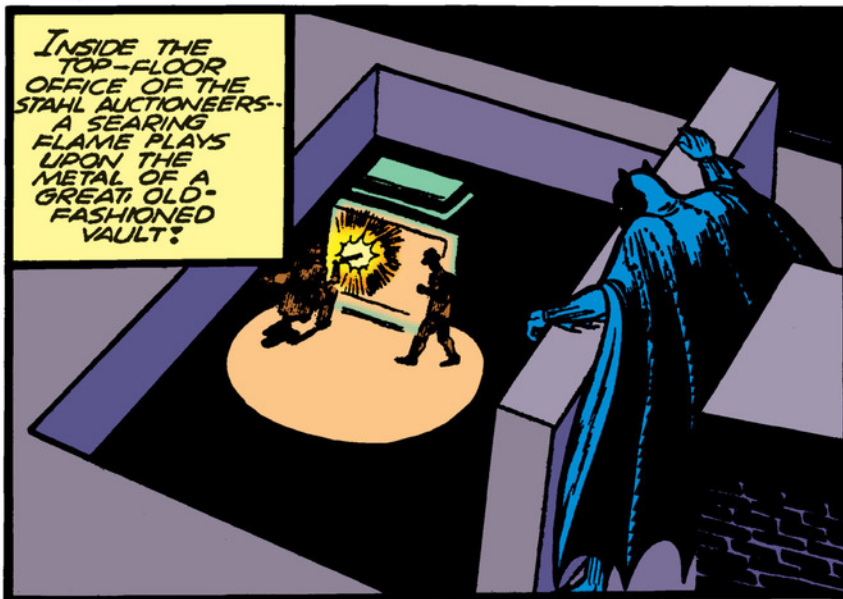
THE GUARDS ARE BAFFLED AS THEIR SEARCH ENDS FRUITLESSLY!

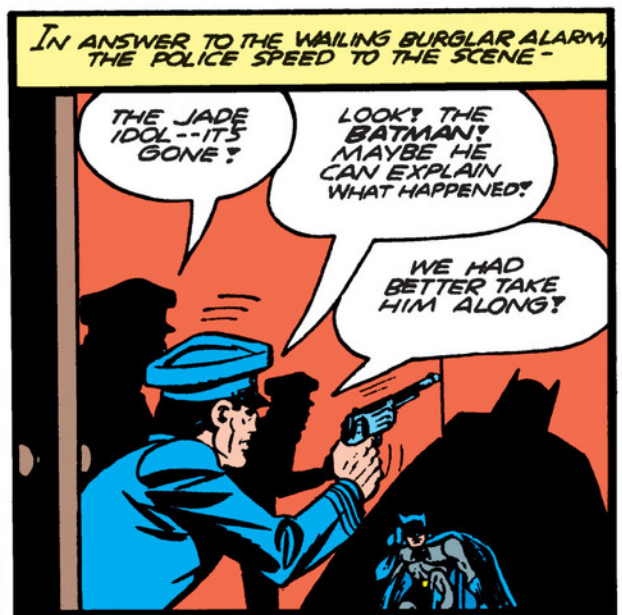
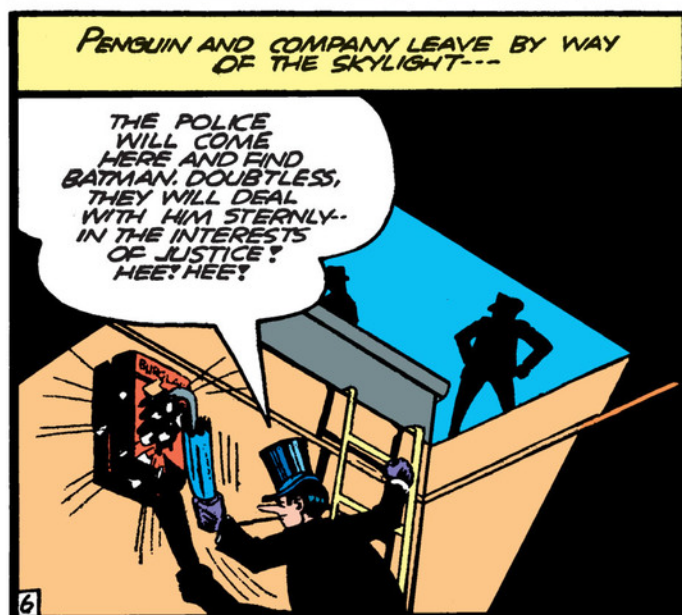
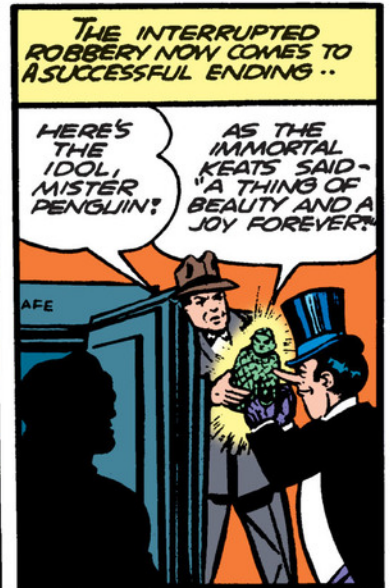
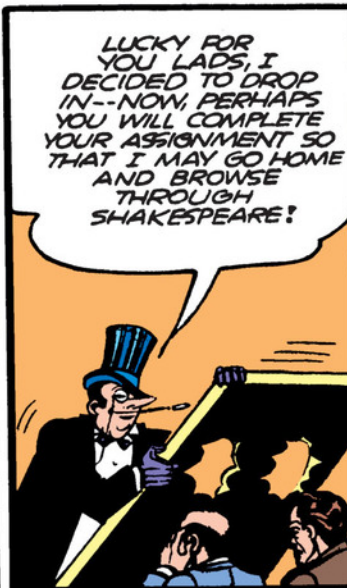
SORRY TO DISAPPOINT YOU--HEE--HEE-- DON'T YOU KNOW IT'S BAD LUCK TO OPEN AN UMBRELLA INDOORS?

HE AIN'T GOT THEM EITHER. THEY WOULDN'T HAVE FLOWN AWAY!









STILL DAZED, THE BATMAN IS TAKEN TO A LUXURIOUS MANSION--

WHERE AM I?-- WHY DID YOU BRING ME HERE?--

JUST FORMALITY, BATMAN! WE WANT YOU TO TELL MR. BONIFACE WHAT HAPPENED TO HIS IDOL--

A PUDDY FIGURE TODDLES IN-- THE PENGUIN?

THAT'S HIM? I'D RECOGNIZE THAT MASK AND CLOAK OF HIS ANYWHERE--

AM I GOING CRAZY? HE'S--

BUT, MR. BONIFACE! YOU MUST BE WRONG! THIS IS THE BATMAN!

I DON'T CARE! HE'S BEEN THREATENING ME FOR WEEKS! HE SAID I'D HAVE TO PAY HIM FOR PROTECTION-- AND THAT HE STOOD IN SO WELL WITH THE POLICE, THAT NOBODY WOULD BELIEVE ME IF I COMPLAINED! I WANT HIM LOCKED UP!

DON'T WORRY, SIR-- WE'LL TAKE CARE OF HIM!

THANK YOU-- I WAS SURE YOU'D SEE YOUR DUTY!

THAT GAS-- I CAN'T THINK--

AS THE POLICE VAN-- CONTAINING THE BATMAN-- GOES DOWN THE STREET, A SLEEK, BLACK CAR MOVES FROM IT'S POSITION ON THE CORNER!

NOW WE FINISH THE REST OF THE PENGUIN'S PLANS!

SUDDENLY-- THE BLACK CAR DELIBERATELY SIDESWIPES THE POLICE VAN--

CRASH!

7

GRAB 'IM! THE PENGUIN WANTS 'IM!

AS THE UNCONSCIOUS POLICE SPRAWL IN THE GUTTER, THE THUGS POUNCE UPON THE DAZED BATMAN--

LATER--IN THE PENGUIN'S MANSION--

WHY DID YOU BRING ME HERE AFTER CONVINCING THE POLICE THAT I'M A CROOK?

FOR SEVERAL REASONS, MY DEAR BATMAN-- FIRST I COLLECT INSURANCE ON MY OWN LITTLE PIECE OF JADE--

SECONDLY--I REMAIN IN THE CLEAR AS AN INNOCENT COLLECTOR. I KNEW THAT WE WOULD INEVITABLY COME TO GRIPS--SO--I MADE PLANS I'VE CALLED THE POLICE AND THERE'S AN ALARM OUT FOR YOU!

THE BLARING RADIO EXPLAINS--

CALLING ALL CARS--- PICK UP BATMAN-- ROBBED STAHL AUCTIONEERS-- ESCAPED AS HE WAS BEING BROUGHT TO JAIL!

YOU SEE?

I SEE! A FRAME-UP! IF I STAY HERE, I'M GUILTY-- AND IF I ESCAPE, I'LL GET SHOT BY THE POLICE!

THE SITUATION SEEMS HOPELESS--WHEN A DARING THOUGHT STRIKES THE BATMAN--

ONLY A SMALL CHANCE-- BUT ITS A CHANCE IF DICK IS AT HOME!

LET'S NOT DWELL UPON SUCH UNPLEASANT THOUGHTS. LET US ADMIRE MY UMBRELLAS-- HMM-- HMM!

THE BATMAN'S FEET COME TOGETHER IN AN APPARENTLY INNOCENT MOVEMENT--

WATCHA DOING?

MY FOOT ITCHES--AND IF YOU WON'T UNTIE MY HANDS I'LL SIMPLY HAVE TO SCRATCH WITH MY FEET!

HMMM! GOT THIS ONE IN SPAIN! HMM!

THE PRESSURE OF A FOOT AND THE SWITCH OF THE TWO-WAY TELEPHONE CONCEALED IN THE BATMAN'S FOOT CLICKS?

BATMAN'S FOOT BEGINS TAPPING ON THE FLOOR IN A STRANGE MANNER--

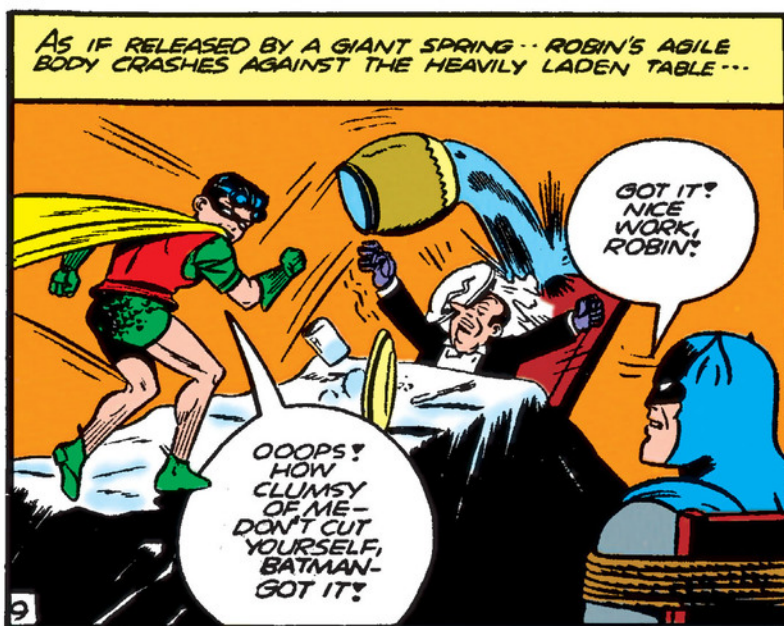
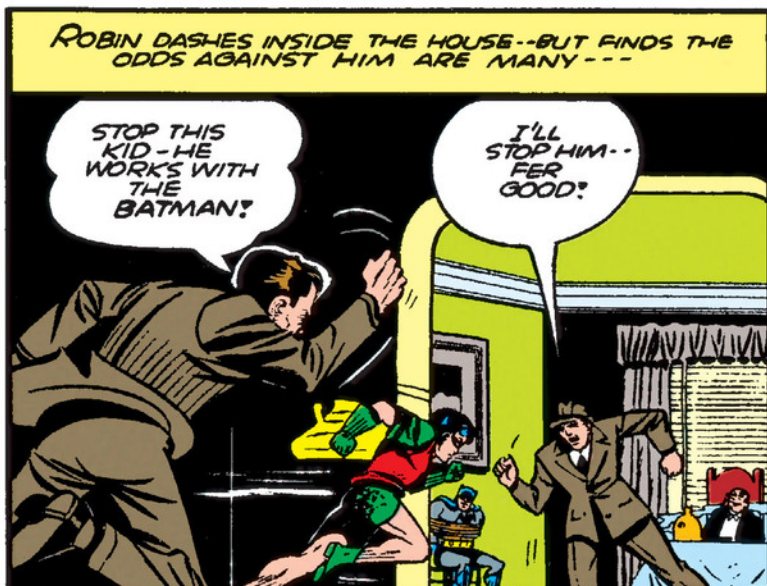
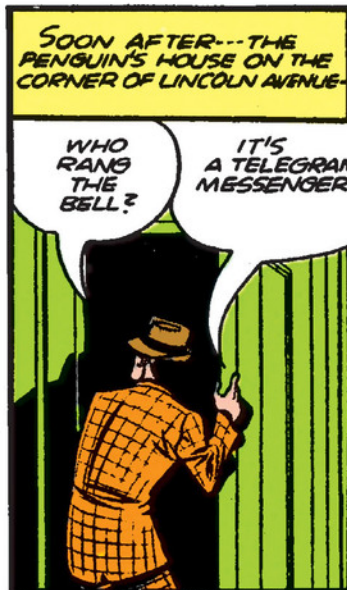
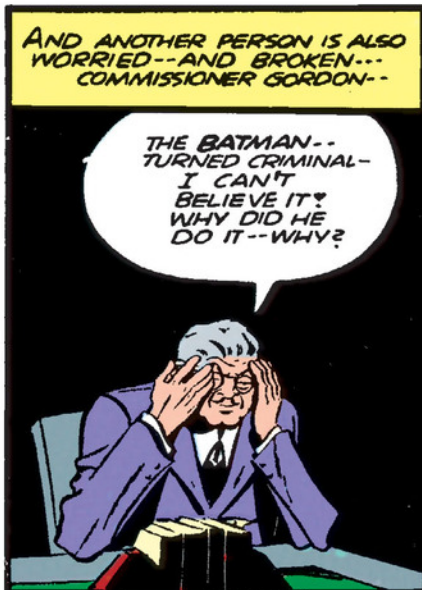
MIGHT AS WELL CATCH UP WITH MY DANCING-- SITTING DOWN!

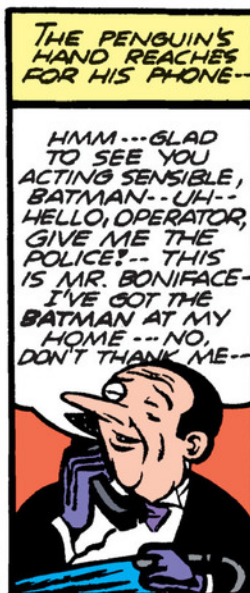
AT THE HOME OF BRUCE WAYNE, DICK GRAYSON HAS HEARD THE POLICE RADIO CALLS DENOUNCING THE BATMAN-- DICK GOES INTO ACTION AS ROBIN THE BOY WONDER--

THEY CAN'T CALL BATMAN A MURDERER! I'LL FIND HIM SOME-- HOW, AND-- SAY-- MY TELEPHONE BELT-- IT'S TAPPING A MESSAGE--IN MORSE CODE--

ROBIN.. I'M BEING HELD IN THE MANSION ON THE CORNER OF LINCOLN AVENUE.. HURRY----

THE RESOURCEFUL BATMAN TAPS HIS FOOT IN MORSE CODE INFORMING ROBIN OF HIS WHEREABOUTS?





POLICE RUSHING IN, FIND THAT BATMAN HAS ESCAPED?



WHERE'S THE BATMAN? YOU SAID YOU HAD HIM HERE?

SO I DID, BUT HE--AH-- LEFT RATHER ABRUPTLY?

BATMAN AND ROBIN SPEED TO THEIR APARTMENT--

OUR BIRD-LIKE FRIEND SHOULD BE ABOUT READY FOR A SUPER-COURT. THE POLICE ARE AFTER ME-- AND HE IS IN THE CLEAR? I THINK THE TRAIL IS WINDING TO AN END --ONE WAY OR ANOTHER?



NIGHT AFTER NIGHT, A BLIND MAN IS SEEN STANDING NEAR THE PENGUIN'S MANSION, HIS QUAVERING VOICE CALLING FOR ALMS. THEN ONE DARK NIGHT--



THIS JOB'LL BE EASY-- WE GOT ALL THE GROUNDWORK LAID OUT?

IN THE HEART OF THE BOWERY... WHERE HUMBLE FLOP-HOUSES RUB SHOULDERS WITH TALL, STATELY BUILDINGS THAT HOUSE UNTOLD WEALTH, HERE IS WHERE THE GREAT DIAMOND EXCHANGES MAKE THEIR OFFICES?

GREETINGS, WE ARE HERE TO GET MORE INFORMATION FOR OUR LECTURES ON HUMAN PSYCHOLOGY. ARE OUR--ER-- CHAMBERS INTACT?

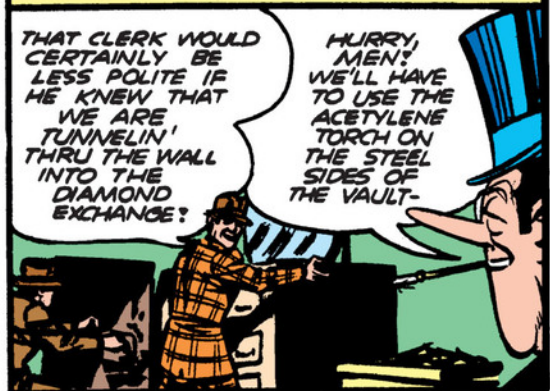
I NEVER RENT IT TO NOBODY BUT YOU-- JUST LIKE YOU ORDERED?



IN THE PENGUIN'S ROOM--

THAT CLERK WOULD CERTAINLY BE LESS POLITE IF HE KNEW THAT WE ARE TUNNELIN' THRU THE WALL INTO THE DIAMOND EXCHANGE?

HURRY, MEN! WE'LL HAVE TO USE THE ACETYLENE TORCH ON THE STEEL SIDES OF THE VAULT--



MEANWHILE IN THE STREET--



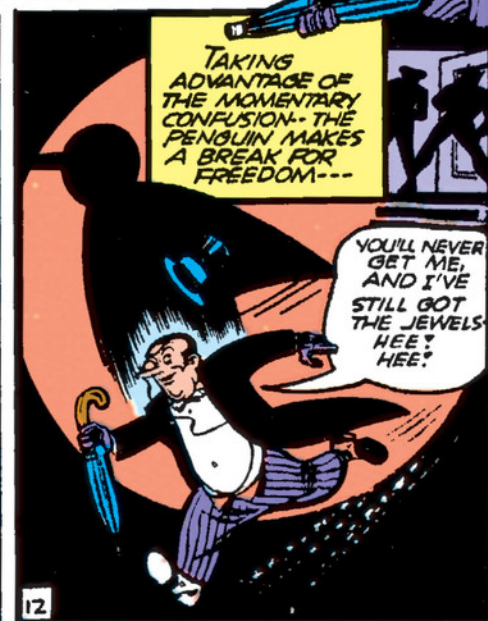
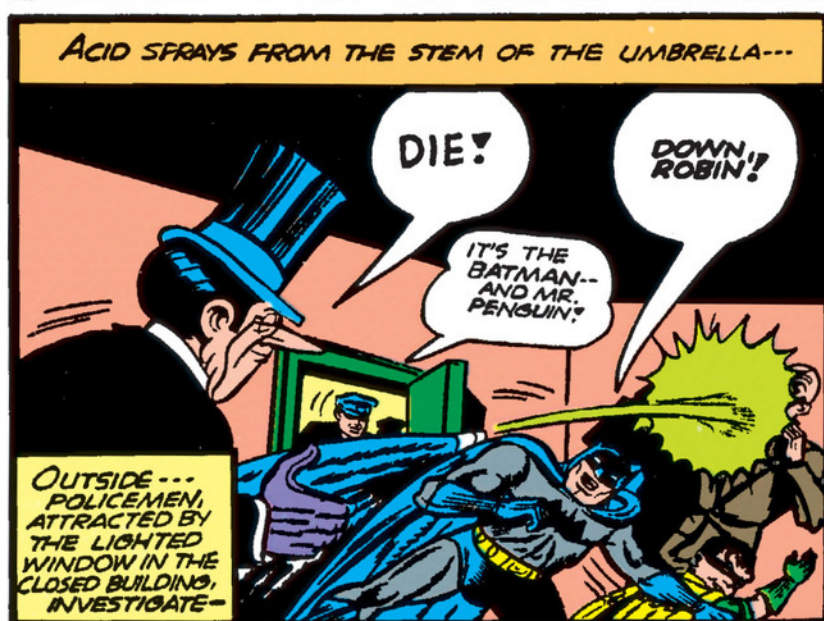
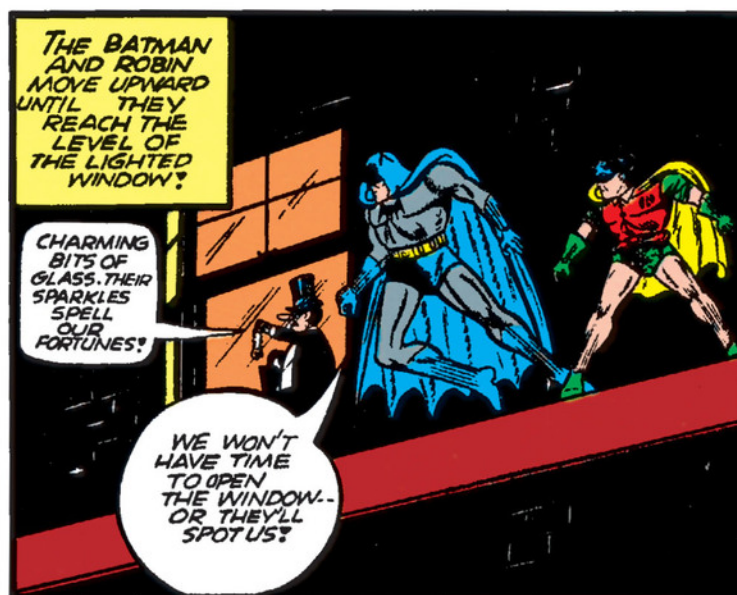
THERE THEY ARE-- I RECOGNIZE THEIR SHADOWS?

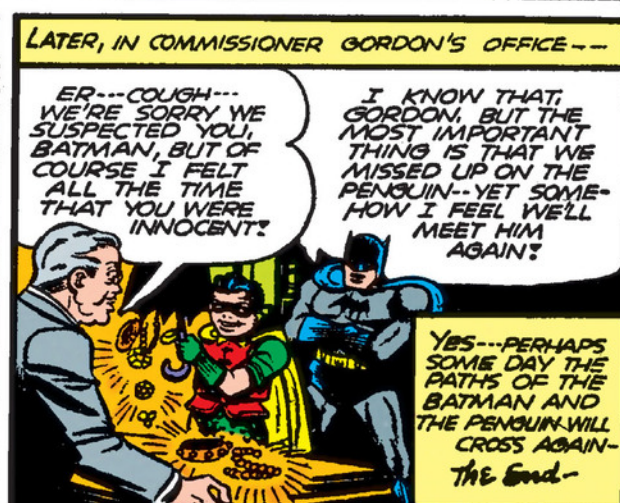
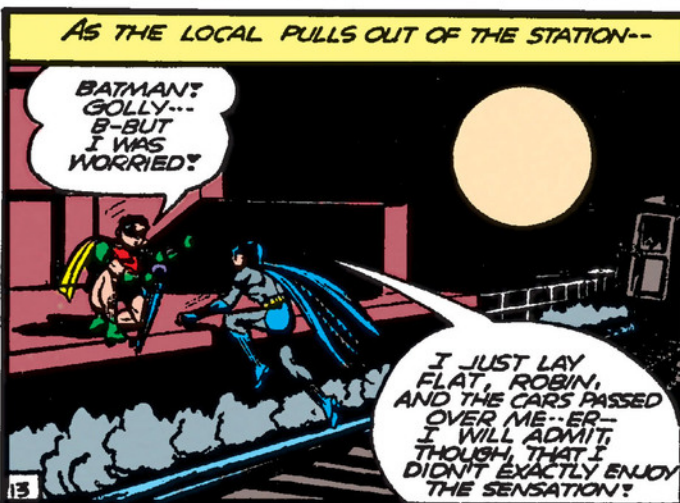
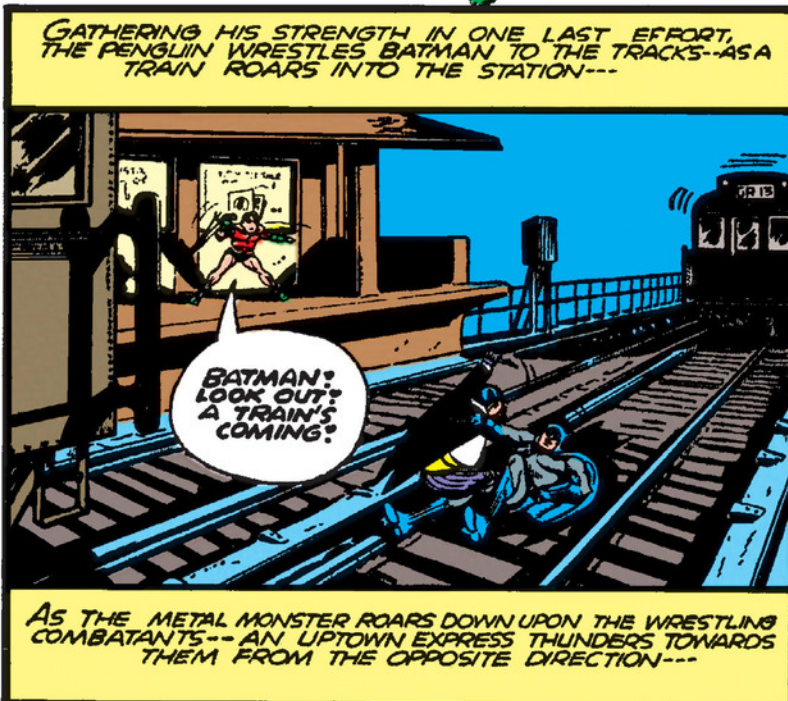
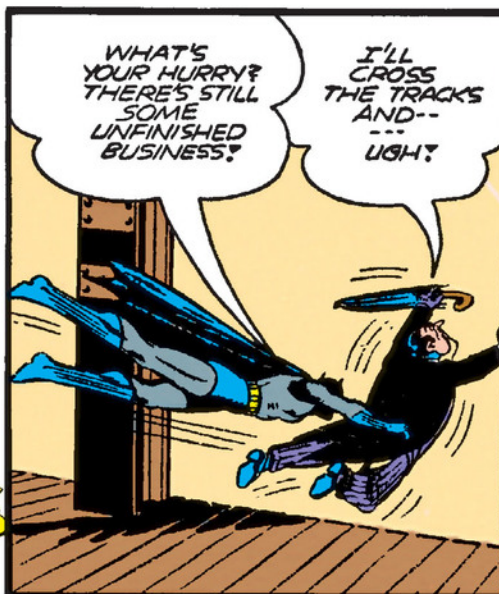
FOR A BLIND MAN-- YOU SEE PRETTY GOOD?

MINUTES PASS AS THE ODD PAIR KEEPS THEIR CEASELESS VIGIL-- AND THEN--



JUST AS I SUSPECTED-- THEY'VE TUNNELED THROUGH THEIR ROOM AND INTO THE DIAMOND EXCHANGE BUILDING. LET'S GO!





No. 8

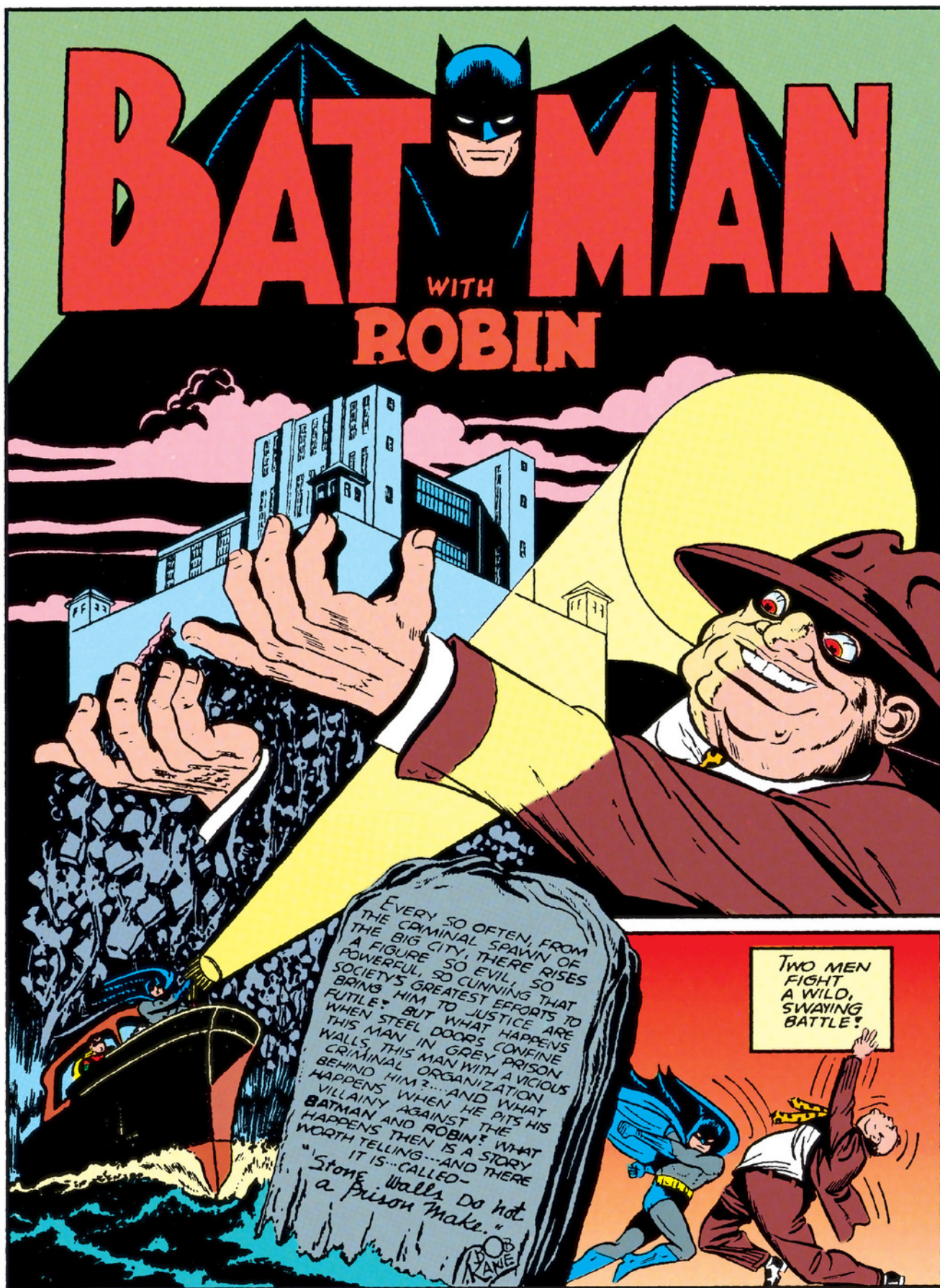


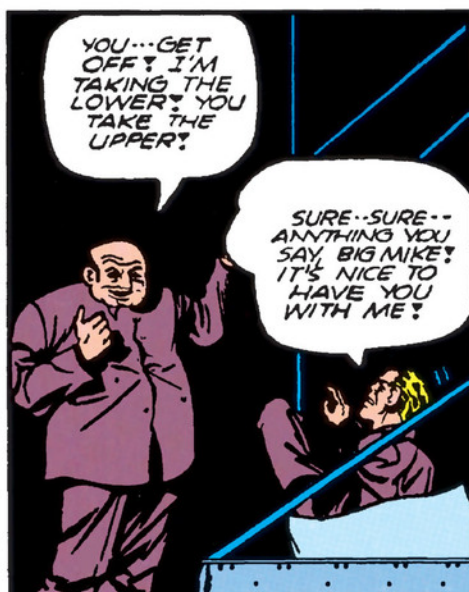
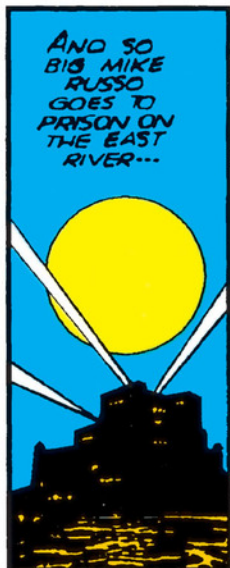
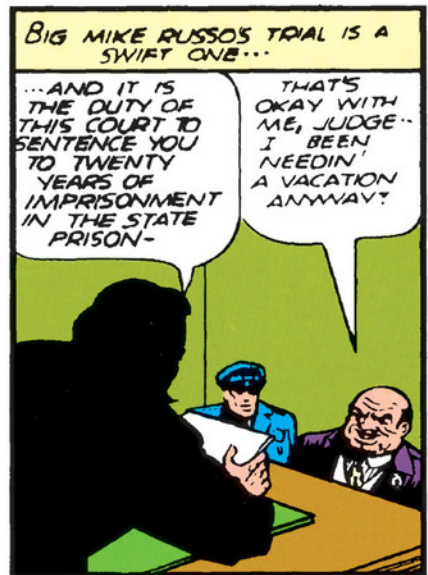
BATMAN

DEC.
JAN.

REG. U. S. PAT. OFF.







SOMETIME LATER--IN A HIDDEN ROOM--



YOU'LL NEVER GET AWAY WITH THIS!

MAYBE--THAT'S RIGHT, MAC. THAT EYEBROW GOES UP A LITTLE THERE--YEAH--NOW YOU'VE GOT IT!

MOMENTS AFTER--TWO WARDEN HIGGINS STAND IN THE ROOM?



A CLEVER MAKEUP JOB---BUT YOU'LL NEVER FOOL ANYBODY--WHAT ABOUT VOICE AND GESTURES?

WE'RE TAKING CARE OF THAT, TOO. I'LL SHOW YOU WHAT I MEAN!

THE LIGHTS WINK OUT AND...

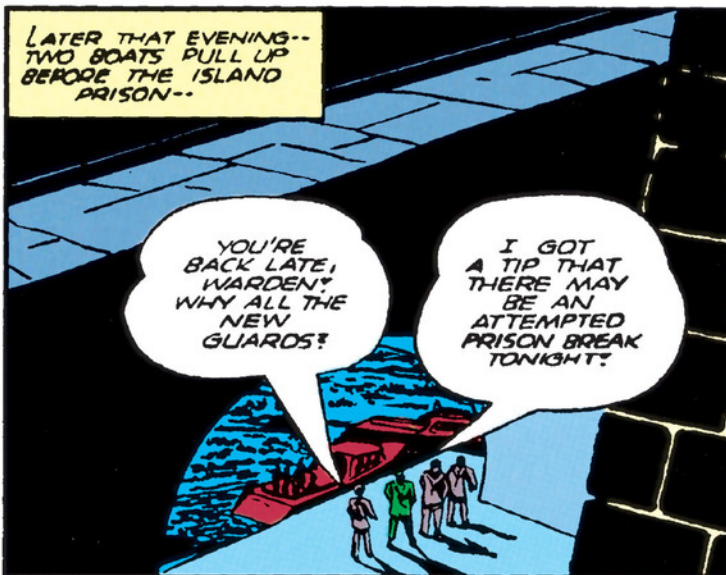
I DO NOT BELIEVE IN CAPITAL PUNISHMENT FOR MEN WHO...

... WE ALSO HAVE RADIO TALKS. GOOD THING YOU'RE AN IMPORTANT MAN! WE'VE ENOUGH MATERIAL TO HAVE OUR MAN COPY YOUR GESTURES AND MANNER OF SPEAKING. CLEVER, EH?

A NEWS-REEL OF ME?



LATER THAT EVENING--TWO BOATS PULL UP BEFORE THE ISLAND PRISON--



YOU'RE BACK LATE, WARDEN! WHY ALL THE NEW GUARDS?

I GOT A TIP THAT THERE MAY BE AN ATTEMPTED PRISON BREAK TONIGHT!

BUT ONCE INSIDE THE PRISON WALLS, THE NEW GUARDS MOVE FAST, AND THIS SCENE IS DUPLICATED MANY TIMES IN THE DEATH HOUSE WING--



GET 'EM UP!

HUH?



HYA, BOSS! EVERYTHING WORKED LIKE A CHARM--WHAT'S WRONG WITH YOUR FEET?

AL--IF I DIDN'T KNOW WHO YOU WAS, I'D SAY YOU WAS HIGGINS HIMSELF! OH, MY FEET! THESE PRISON SHOES!---NOW I CAN PUT ON SOME SOFT SHOES!

THE PRISON GUARDS ARE STRIPPED OF THEIR GUNS AND HERDED FORWARD INTO THE PRISON YARD--



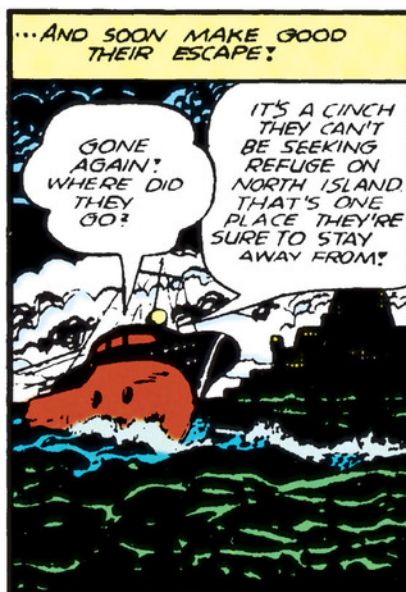
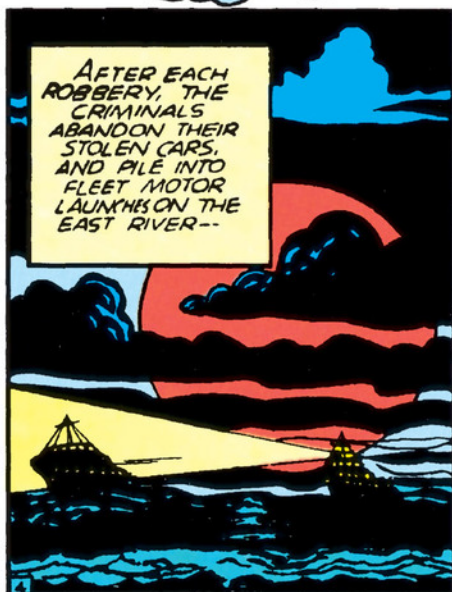
YOU GUARDS-- I'M GONNA MAKE THIS PLACE MY HEADQUARTERS-- NOW, YOU PLAY BALL WITH ME AND YOU'LL BE EATIN' OUTA GOLD PLATES!

NOT ME! YOU CAN'T USE ME FOR YOUR ROTTEN WORK.

A SHOT CRASHES THROUGH THE SILENT NIGHT---



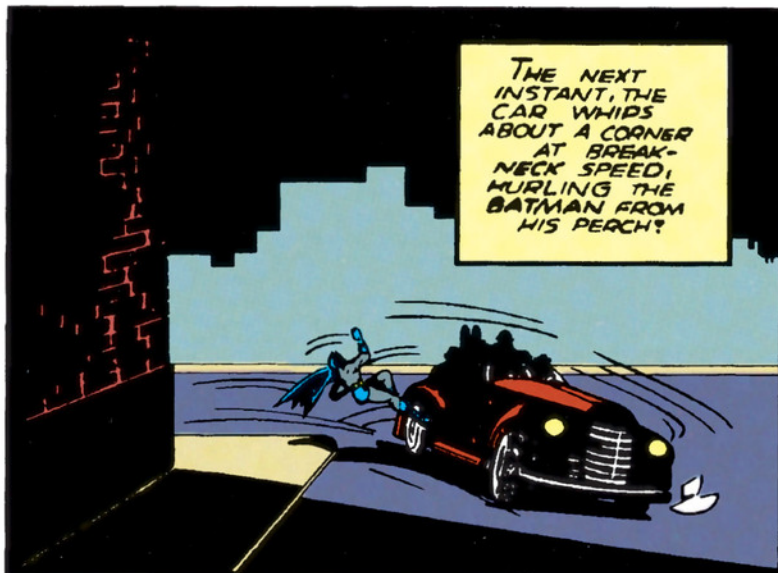
THAT'S WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO OTHER QUITTERS! NOW-- YOU WANNA THROW IN WITH ME--? THINK IT OVER!



IN THE TUSSE, A HANDKERCHIEF FALLS AND THE BATMAN CATCHES A GLIMPSE OF THE MAN'S FACE---



THE NEXT INSTANT, THE CAR WHIPS ABOUT A CORNER AT BREAK-NECK SPEED, MURLING THE BATMAN FROM HIS PERCH?



SOMETHING'S WRONG? THAT GUNMAN IS TRIGGER SHERMAN-- SUPPOSED TO BE ON NORTH ISLAND PRISON-- WAITING FOR EXECUTION--



THE BATMAN VISITS COMMISSIONER GORDON--

--AND TRIGGER SHERMAN IS IN THE SAME PRISON THAT BIG MIKE RUSSO IS IN? AND THOSE ROBBERIES LATELY ALL BEAR THE STAMP OF WILY MIKE?

RUSSO BEHIND ALL THIS? IMPOSSIBLE! TO PROVE YOU'RE WRONG, I'LL TAKE YOU TO THE PRISON MYSELF--



AND SO--LATER THAT DAY--

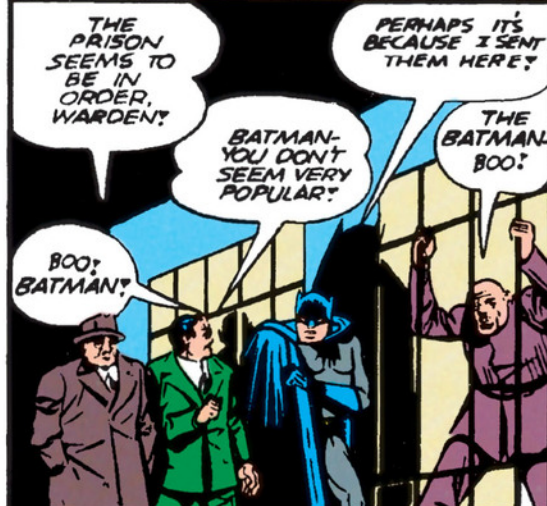
THE PRISON SEEMS TO BE IN ORDER, WARDEN?

PERHAPS IT'S BECAUSE I SENT THEM HERE?

BATMAN-- YOU DON'T SEEM VERY POPULAR?

THE BATMAN-- BOO?

BOO? BATMAN?



BATMAN-- HERE'S TRIGGER SHERMAN?

HELLO, TRIGGER? HOW ARE THEY TREATING YOU?

JUST DANDY! YOU GOTTA EXCUSE ME NOW --I GOTTA PUT ON ME TUXEDO SO'S I CAN GO TO THE POLICEMEN'S BALL



BIG MIKE RUSSO RECEIVES THE VISITORS

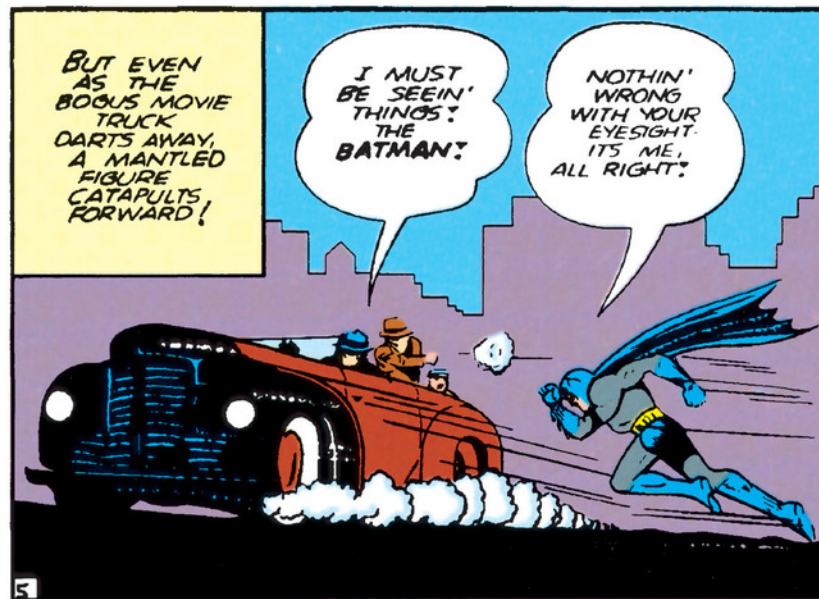
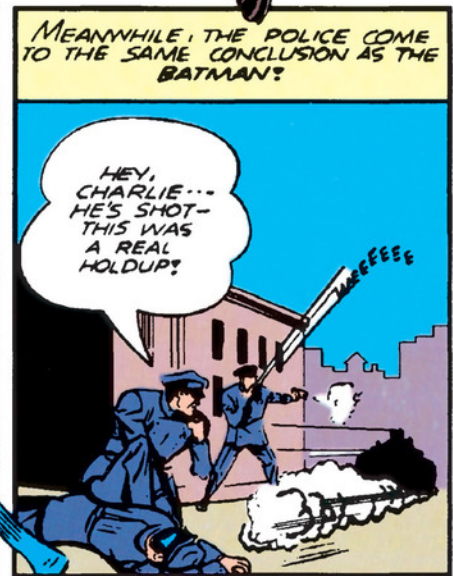
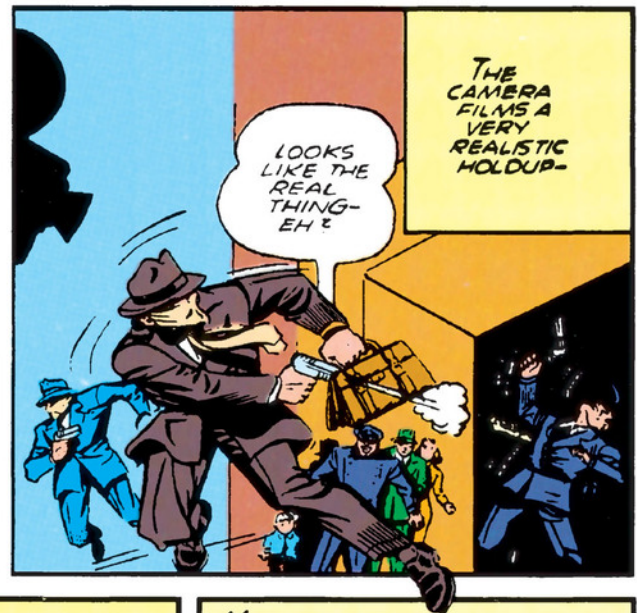
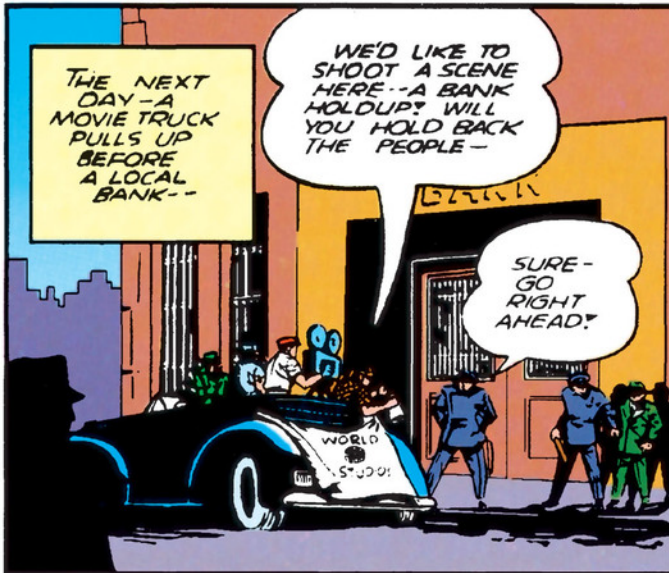
WELL-- THE BATMAN AND COMMISSIONER GORDON? THIS IS AN HONOR

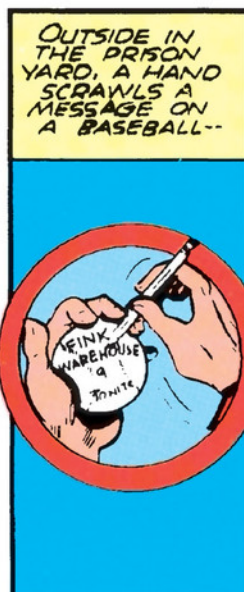
TOO BAD I CAN'T SAY THE SAME?

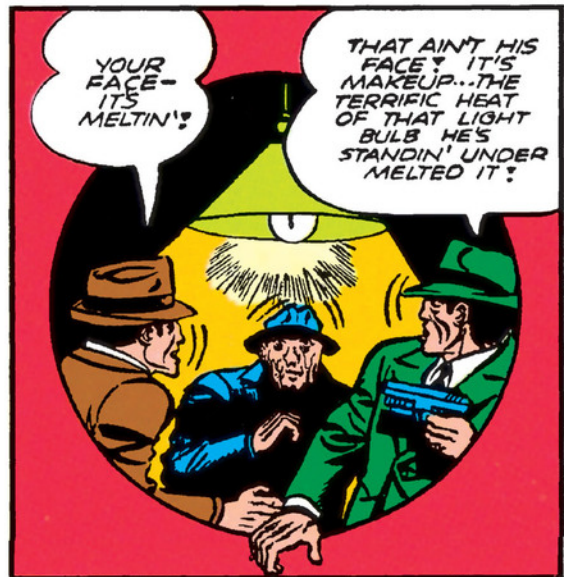
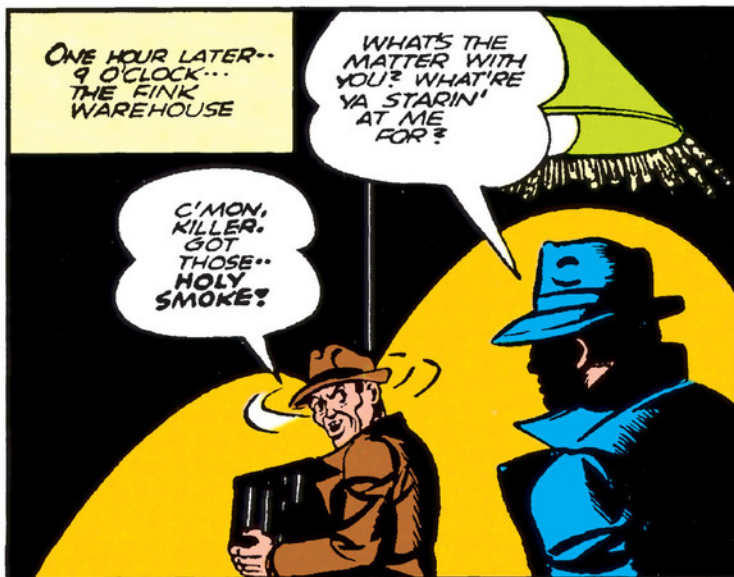
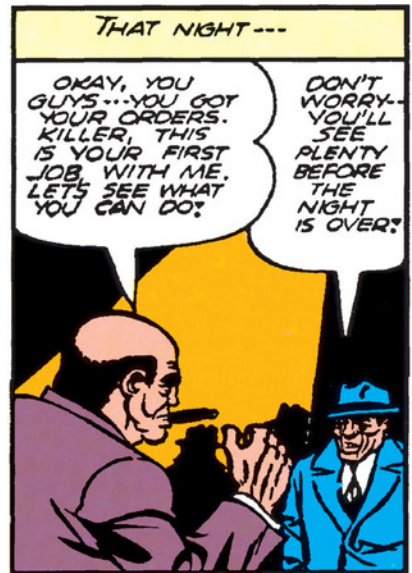
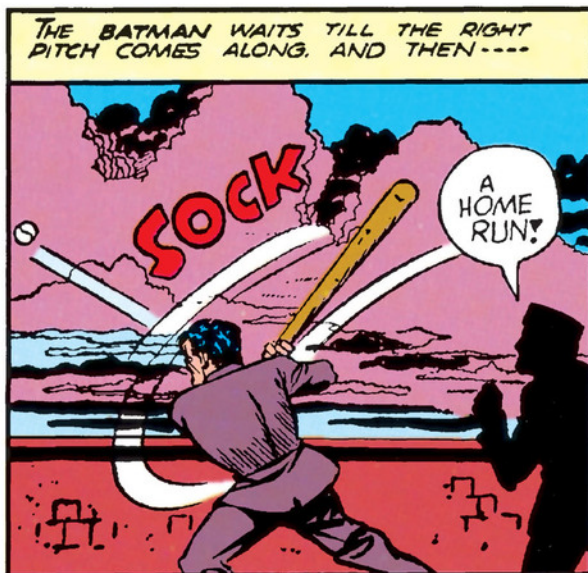


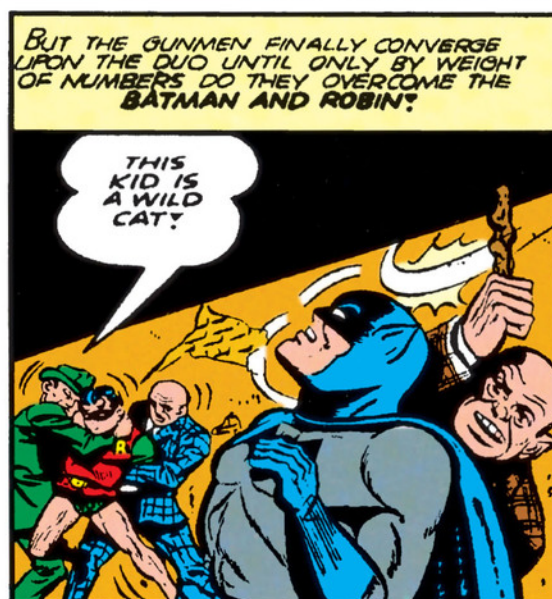
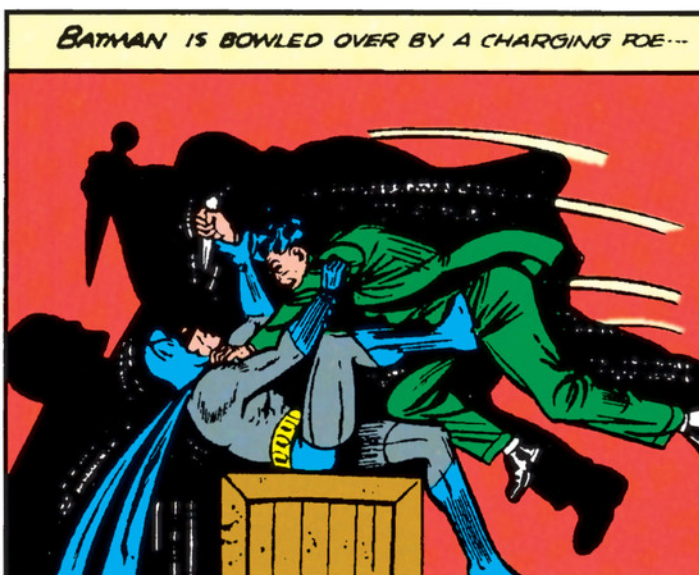
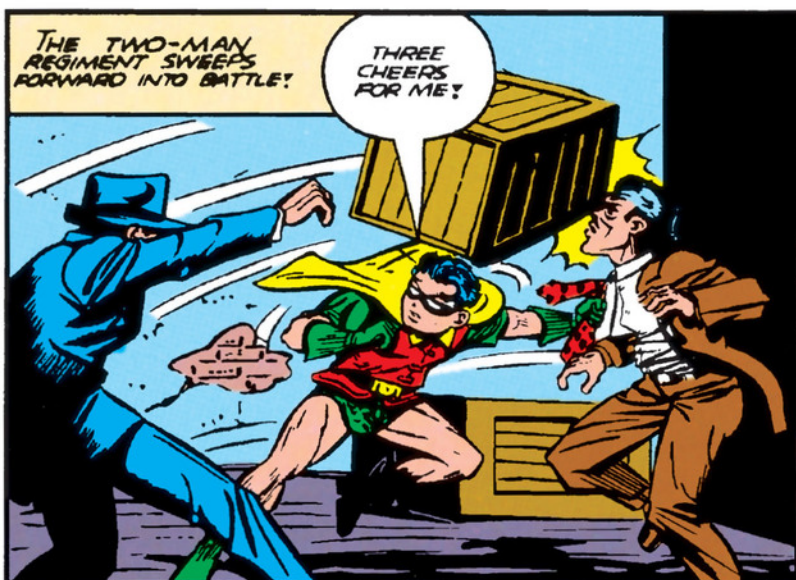
SUDDENLY THE BATMAN RIVETS HIS KEEN EYES ON RUSSO'S FEET---

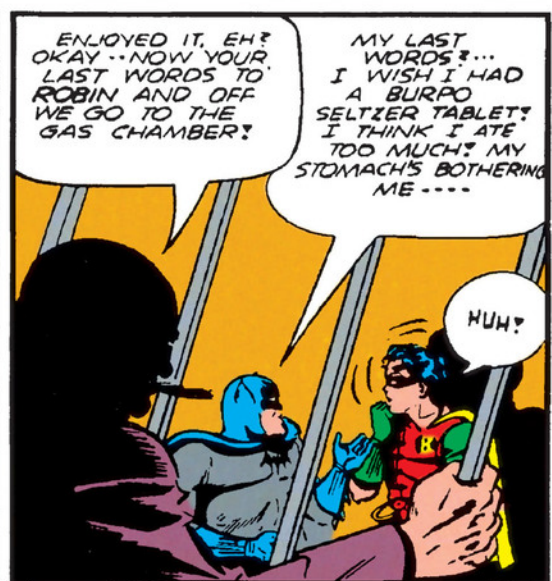
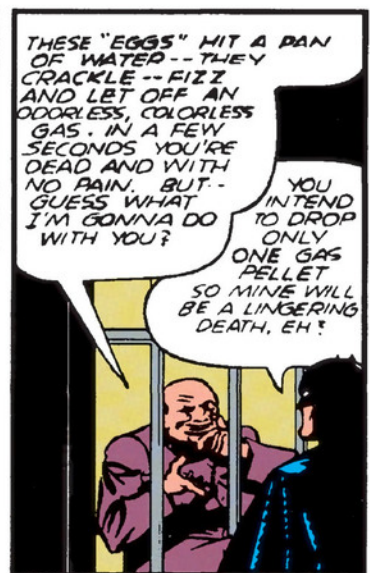
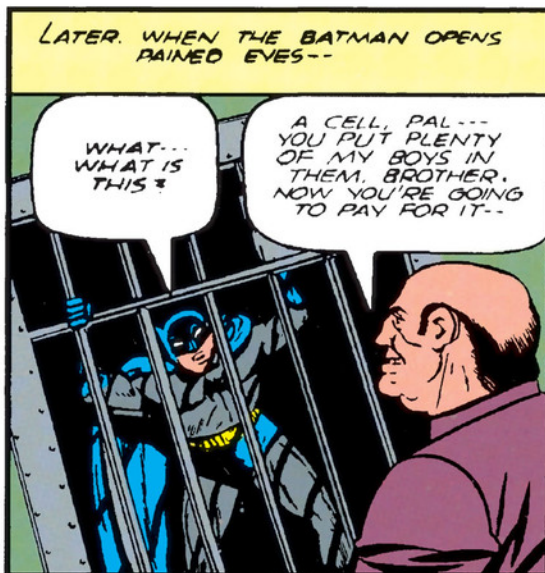












A FLOOR BELOW, A STEEL DOOR CLOSES- ROBIN HAS BEEN PUT IN SOLITARY?

OKAY-- SMART KID- LET'S SEE YOU GET OUT OF THERE?

A BARE STEEL ROOM? ABOVE A TINY VENTILATOR- NO KEYHOLE ON THE DOOR

CLOP CLOP

THERE'S NO WAY OUT...NO KEYHOLE...NOTHING BUT STEEL WALLS- WAIT... WHAT'S THAT?... FOOTSTEPS?

FOOTSTEPS? THE BATMAN MARCHING TOWARD HIS DOOM--THE GAS CHAMBER.

GAS CHA

BELOW- ROBIN GROWS FRANTIC? HOW CAN HE ESCAPE FROM AN ESCAPE-PROOF CELL?

GOT TO GET OUT-- IF I COULD ONLY MOVE THAT BOLT OUTSIDE---NEED A MAGNET FOR THAT--- MAGNET--I'VE GOT IT... MY BELT-- WIRELESS SET-- DYNAMO?

NOTE... A DYNAMO CONSISTS OF A MAGNET WITH WIRE AROUND IT?

GOOD THING DYNAMO MAGNETS ARE THE MOST POWERFUL IN THE WORLD-- NOW--MOVE THE LATCH UP LIKE THIS?

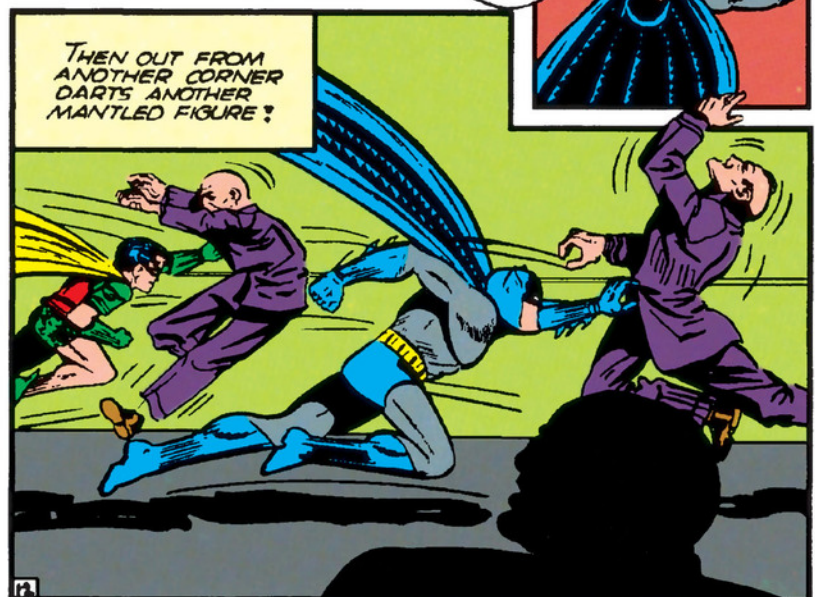
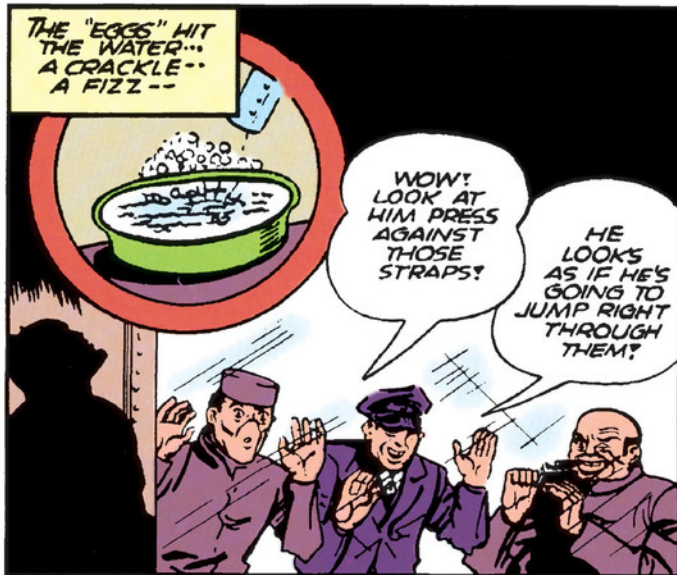
NOTE: LATCH LOCKED OPEN

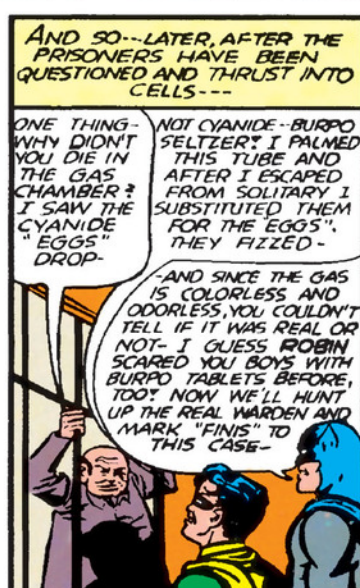
PUT THE CYANIDE EGGS ON THE RELEASE, JOE? WE'RE ALL SET NOW?

THE BATMAN IS BEING STRAPPED IN THE CHAIR-- CAN ROBIN ESCAPE IN TIME TO SAVE THE BATMAN?

MINUTES PASS- CRIMINALS EAGERLY OBSERVE, AS THEIR NEMESIS THE BATMAN IS ABOUT TO DIE?

IT TOOK ME, MIKE RUSSO, TO END THE CAREER OF THE GREAT BATMAN? HA-HA?





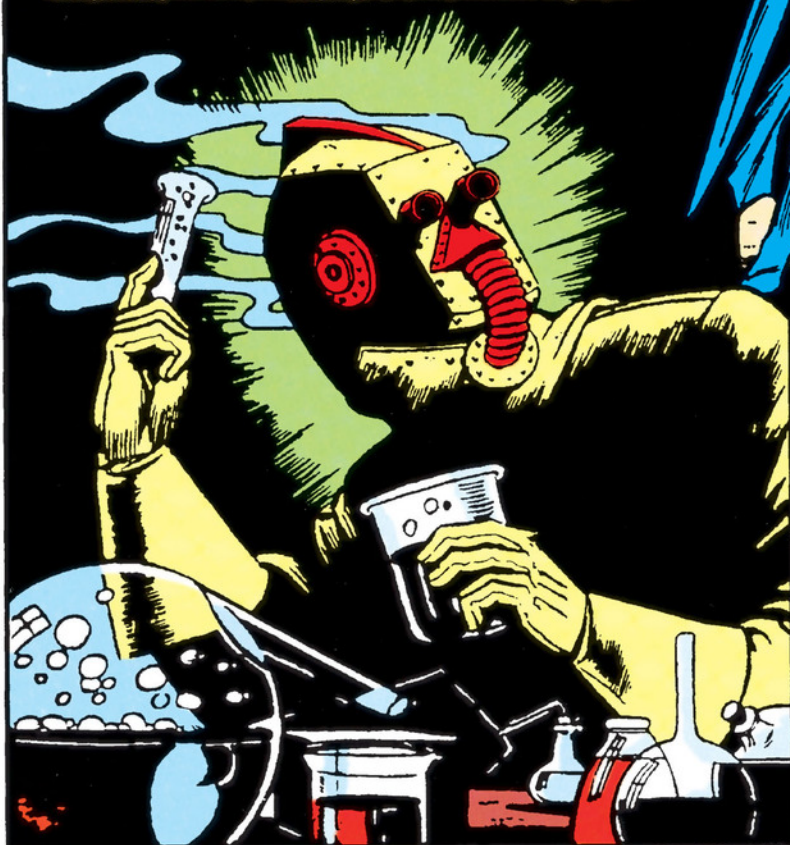
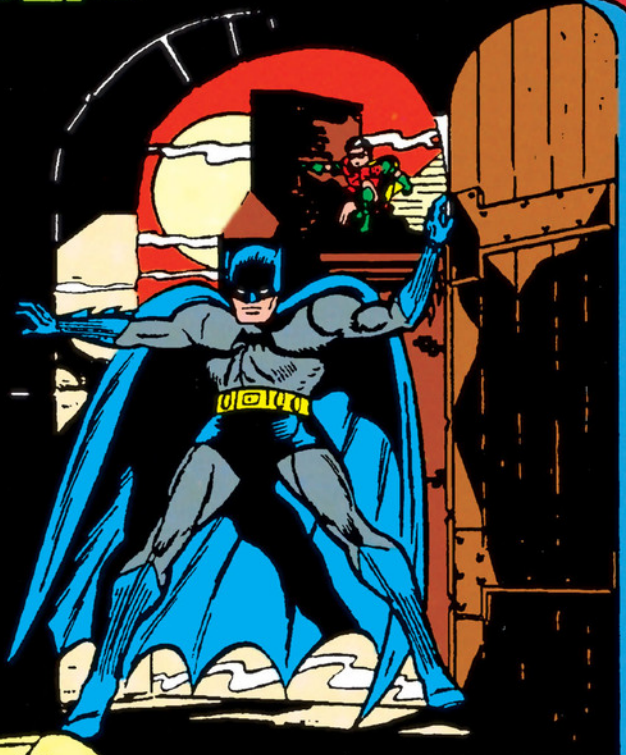
BATMAN

WITH
ROBIN

BATMAN AND ROBIN, SWORN ENEMIES OF CRIME, MATCH WITS WITH A SINISTER AND CLEVER MASTER OF THE WEAPONS OF SCIENCE? WHO IS THIS INCREDIBLE, EERIE FIGURE GLOWING WITH UNHOLY, FLUORESCENT LIGHT? LET US CALL HIM BY THAT DREAD NAME WHICH IS TO BECOME SO TERRIBLY FAMILIAR TO ALL ---- **Professor Radium?**

CAN THE DYNAMIC DUO COPE WITH THE STRANGE WEAPONS OF THE WORLD OF SCIENCE? CAN THEY DEFEAT A MAN WHO MUST KILL SO THAT HE MAY LIVE? HERE IS THE ANSWER IN THE MOST AMAZING OF ALL ADVENTURES CALLED--

"The Strange Case of Professor Radium!"



A STRANGE REQUEST IS MADE AT THE CITY DOG POUND--

THE PERMIT SEEMS ALL RIGHT. WE CAN DELIVER THE DOGS TO YOUR LABORATORY TONIGHT?

GAS CHAMBER
CITY DOG POUND

EXCELLENT! I WANT THEM AS THEY ARE NOW--DEAD!



THAT NIGHT--IN A HOSPITAL LABORATORY, THE SCIENTIST, PROFESSOR ROSS, LABORS TO SOLVE MAN'S GREATEST RIDDLE--

WILL MY RADIUM SERUM REPAIR DEAD TISSUE AND MAKE MAN LIVE FOREVER? I SHALL EITHER FIND THE GREATEST SCIENTIFIC DISCOVERY SINCE TIME BEGAN--OR FAILURE?

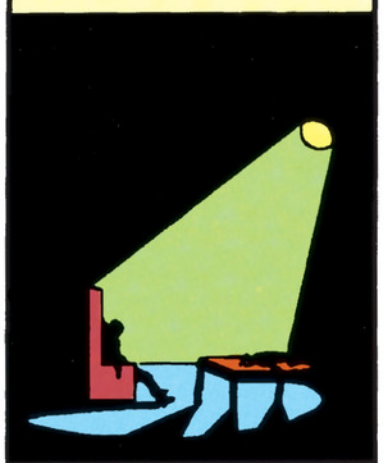


BUT THE SERUM-INJECTED DOGS SHOW NO SIGN OF MOVEMENT--

I'VE FAILED! ALL THESE MONTHS OF WORK-- BUT WAIT-- PERHAPS IT'S TOO SOON-- PERHAPS IT NEEDS MORE TIME!

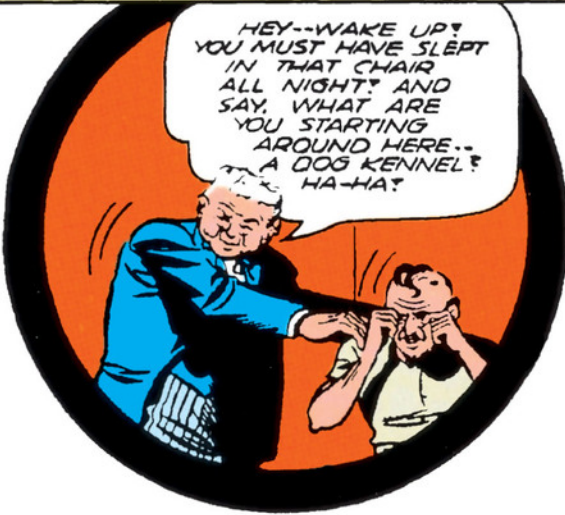


MINUTES DRAG INTO HOURS, AND AS THE BLEARY-EYED SCIENTIST WAITS AND WATCHES, SLEEP FINALLY CONQUERS HIS EXHAUSTED BODY--



A HAND SHAKES HIM--

HEY--WAKE UP! YOU MUST HAVE SLEPT IN THAT CHAIR ALL NIGHT! AND SAY, WHAT ARE YOU STARTING AROUND HERE-- A DOG KENNEL? HA-HA!



ALIVE! THE DOGS ARE ALIVE! RADIUM SERUM CAN REPAIR PROTOPLASM! I MUST SUBMIT A REPORT TO THE DIRECTORS AT ONCE! NEXT I MUST REVIVE A DEAD MAN-- THEN I SHALL BE FAMOUS!



LATER THAT DAY, IN THE INSTITUTE DIRECTOR'S OFFICE--

THEY LOOK LIKE THE DOGS WE DELIVERED TO THE PROFESSOR, BUT I CAN'T BE SURE!

THESE X-RAYS SHOW NO TRACE OF RADIUM IN THE DOGS! ARE YOU TRYING TO PULL A HOAX ON ME, PROFESSOR?



OF COURSE NOT! I'LL BRING ANOTHER DOG TO LIFE AND PROVE MY CLAIM IS TRUE!

A LIVE DOG COULD BE SUBSTITUTED FOR A DEAD ONE, YOU KNOW! YOUR LIFE-RENEWING CLAIM SEEMS ABSURD! PERHAPS YOU HAVE APPROPRIATED THE RADIUM FOR YOUR OWN PRIVATE USE.

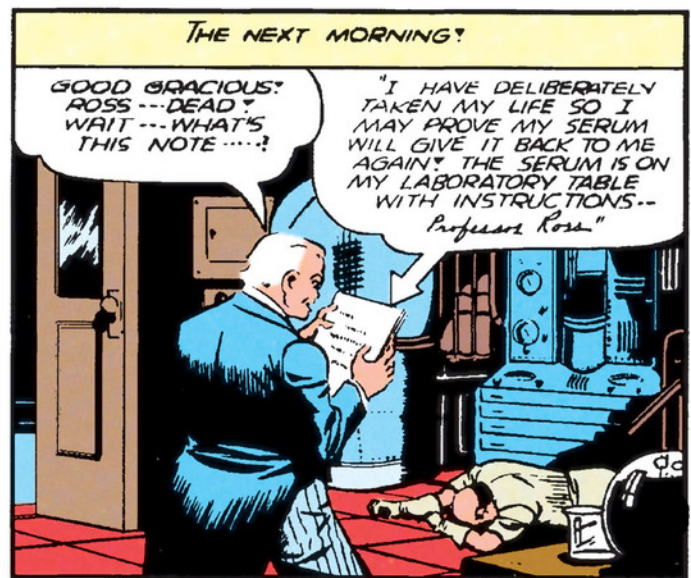


FOR YOUR EXCELLENT WORK IN THE PAST, WE WILL NOT CHARGE YOU WITH THE THEFT OF THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS OF RADIUM, BUT SHALL INSTEAD ASK FOR YOUR RESIGNATION! GOOD DAY, PROFESSOR ROSS!





BAM! I'LL SHOW HIM WHAT A TRUE SCIENTIST IS!... A MAN WHO IS WILLING TO EXPERIMENT ON HIMSELF TO PROVE TO THE WORLD HE'S RIGHT!



THE NEXT MORNING?

GOOD GRACIOUS! ROSS --- DEAD? WAIT --- WHAT'S THIS NOTE ----?

"I HAVE DELIBERATELY TAKEN MY LIFE SO I MAY PROVE MY SERUM WILL GIVE IT BACK TO ME AGAIN! THE SERUM IS ON MY LABORATORY TABLE WITH INSTRUCTIONS--
Professor Ross"

WITH FEVERISH HASTE, JOHNSTON INJECTS THE SERUM INTO THE BRAVE PROFESSOR...AND WAITS UNTIL---



HE...HE'S MOVING! IT'S INCREDIBLE-- BUT HE'S ALIVE!

OH!!!

LATER JOHNSTON EXAMINES A DROP OF THE PROFESSOR'S BLOOD UNDER A MICROSCOPE---



AMAZING! THE BLOOD IS COMPLETELY FREE OF RADIUM!

I'M GOING HOME TO PREPARE MY PAPER EXPLAINING THE EXPERIMENT-- I WANT TO SPRING IT AS A SURPRISE ON THE DIRECTOR!

AFTER WORKING MANY TEDIOUS HOURS THE PROFESSOR RELAXES A FEW MOMENTS IN HIS GARDEN--



MMMM?

SURPRISINGLY, THE FLOWER WITHERS IN HIS HAND!



A FRIENDLY SPARROW LIGHTS ON THE PROFESSOR'S HAND TO EAT SOME CRUMBS---AND TOPPLES OVER---DEAD?



TAKE YOUR CRUMBS --- WHY, HE'S... HE'S...

LATER THAT DAY--



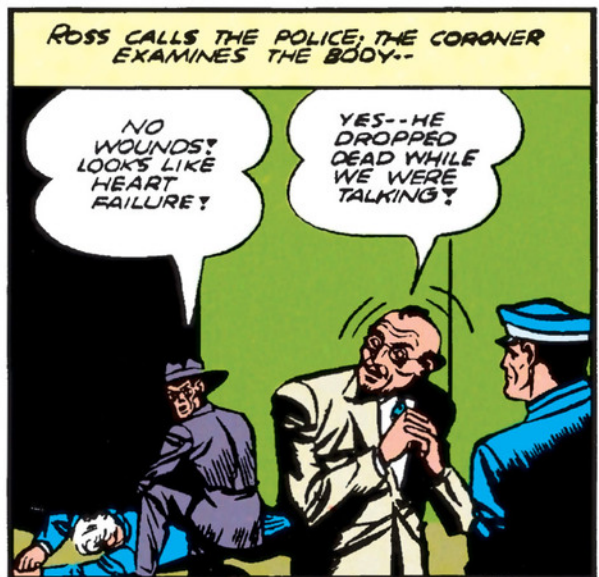
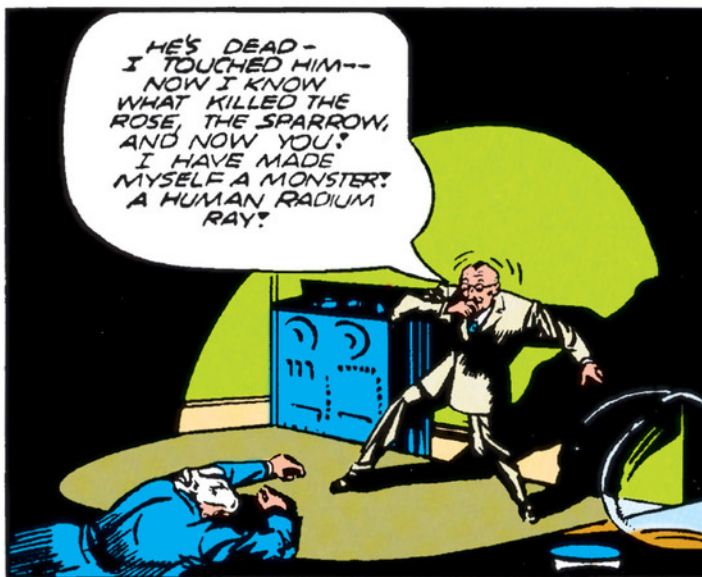
ROSS--I EXAMINED THAT SLIDE AGAIN--AND THERE ARE DEFINITE TRACES OF RADIUM!

WHAT? QUICK! TAKE AN X-RAY OF MY BONE STRUCTURE IN MY LABORATORY!

ONCE IN A DARK LABORATORY JOHNSTON
SUDDENLY GASPS-- THE PROFESSOR'S
BODY GLOWS EERILY WITH A GREEN
RADIANT LIGHT.



WHEN THE LIGHT IS FINALLY
SWITCHED ON--

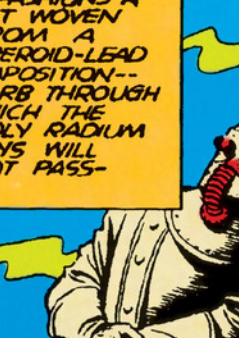


BUT ALL DOESN'T GO WELL--HE FINDS THAT VOLITELL WEARS OFF AFTER TWENTY-FOUR HOURS---




IT'S HORRIBLE--- I'VE CHANGED BACK TO RADIUM AGAIN!... I'VE NO MORE VOLITELL SERUM TO MAKE ME NORMAL-- I MUST GET VOLITELL-- BUT FIRST, I'VE GOT TO MAKE SURE NO ONE ELSE WILL DIE--

HE FASHIONS A SUIT WOVEN FROM A RUBBEROID-LEAD COMPOSITION-- A GARB THROUGH WHICH THE DEADLY RADIUM RAYS WILL NOT PASS--



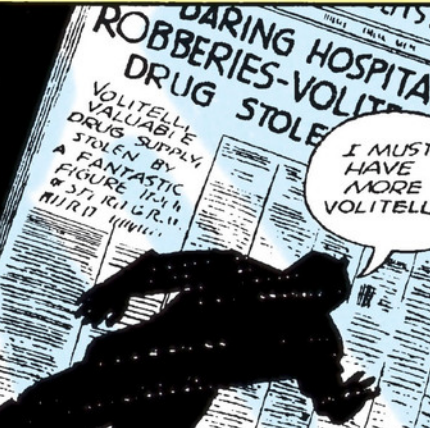
IT LOOKS BIZARRE, BUT WILL PROTECT ANYBODY WHO MIGHT CONTACT MY RADIUM-CHARGED BODY-- NOW I CAN GO AFTER THE VOLITELL!

VOLITELL IS AN EXPENSIVE DRUG, AND HE HAS USED HIS FUNDS ON HIS EXPERIMENTS-- THAT NIGHT, HE FURTIVELY ENTERS A HOSPITAL'S SUPPLY ROOM--



ONLY TWO OUNCES: I'LL NEED A MUCH GREATER QUANTITY!


AS THE DESPERATE SCIENTIST STEALS MORE AND MORE VOLITELL, NEWSPAPERS TELL AN AMAZING STORY---



DARING HOSPITAL ROBBERIES-VOLITELL
VOLITELL, VALUABLE DRUG SUPPLY, STOLEN BY A FANTASTIC FIGURE IN A RUBBEROID-LEAD SUIT.
MURDERER!

I MUST HAVE MORE VOLITELL!

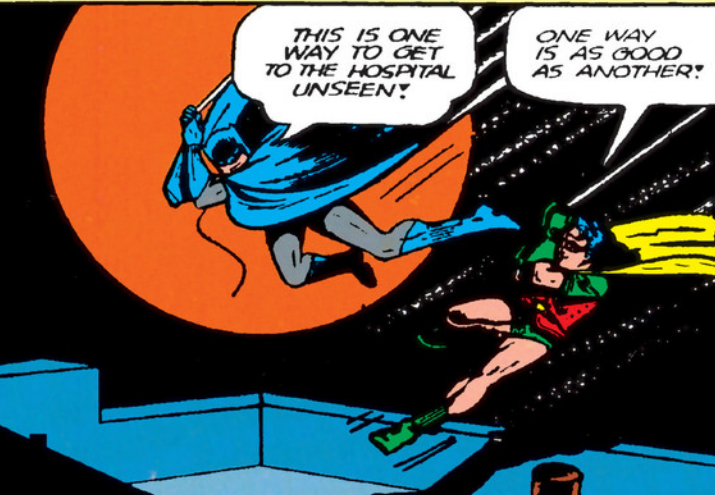
AND IN HIS HOME, BRUCE WAYNE SPEAKS TO HIS YOUNG WARD, DICK GRAYSON--



WONDER WHO IS BEHIND THIS VOLITELL BUSINESS?

ONLY A SCIENTIST WOULD HAVE ANY KNOWLEDGE OF VOLITELL! I HAVE A HUNCH THAT MAYBE OUR MYSTERY MAN WILL SHOW UP AT GOTHAM HOSPITAL TONIGHT--


NIGHT--TWO CAPED FIGURES SWING THROUGH EMPTY SPACE--



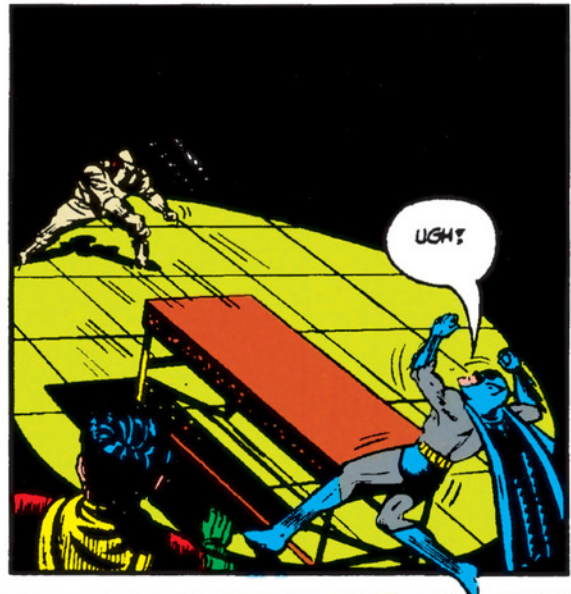
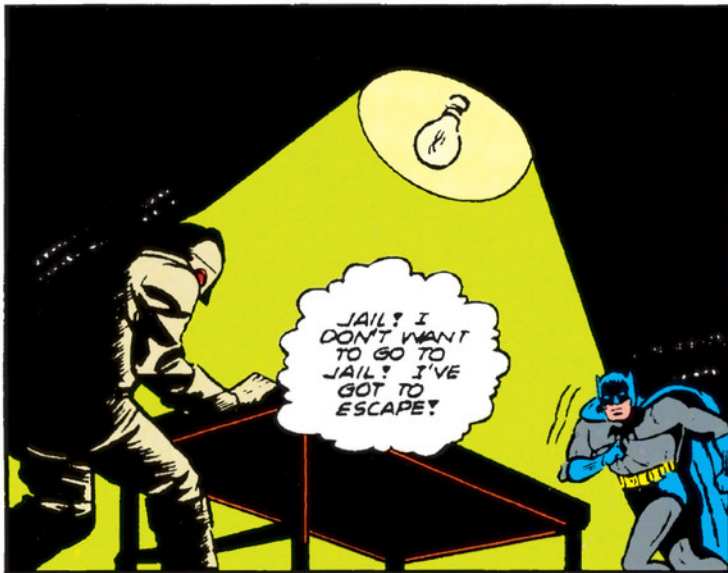
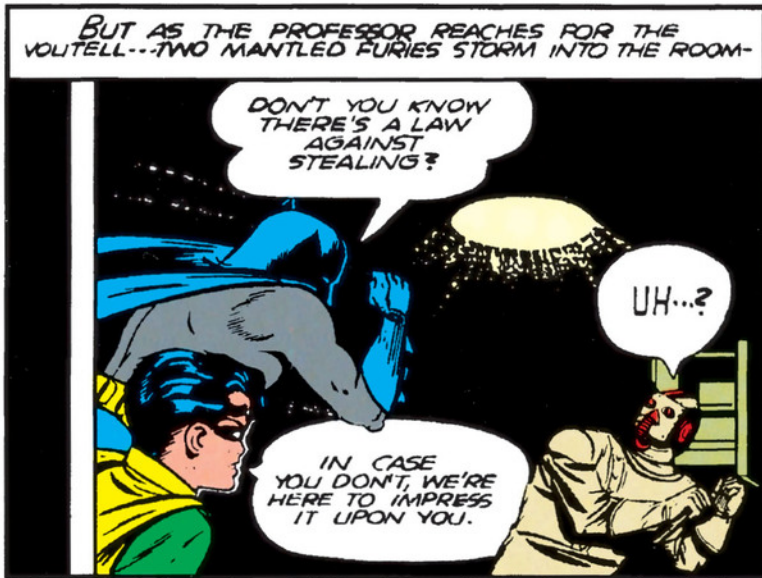
THIS IS ONE WAY TO GET TO THE HOSPITAL UNSEEN!

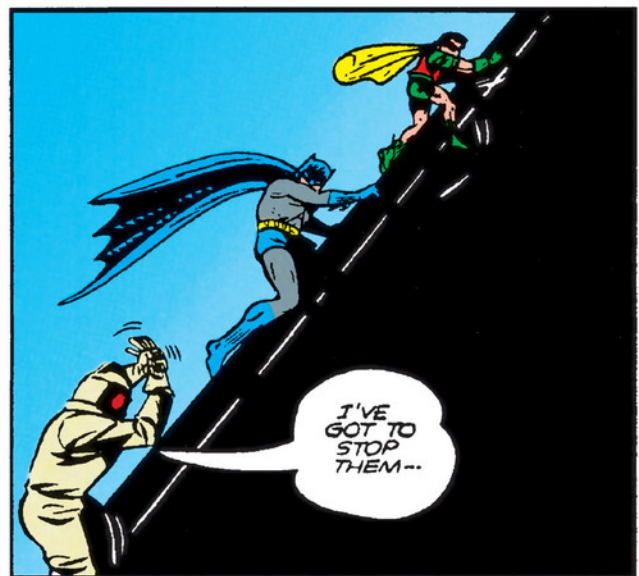
ONE WAY IS AS GOOD AS ANOTHER!

THE PROFESSOR HAS REMAINED HIDDEN INSIDE THE HOSPITAL ALL DAY LONG--

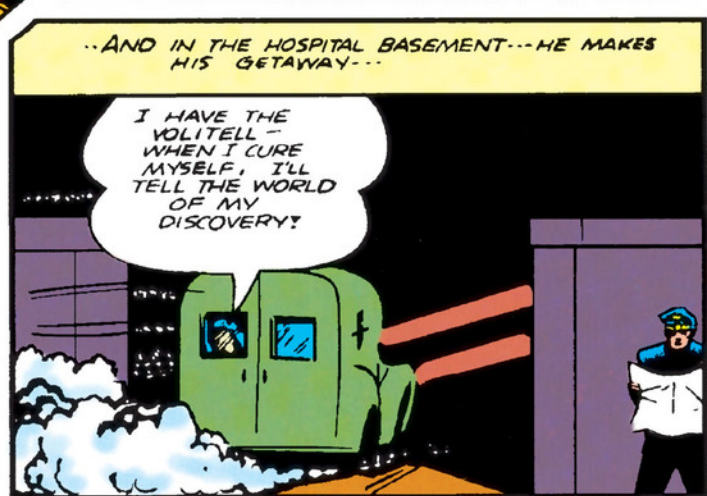
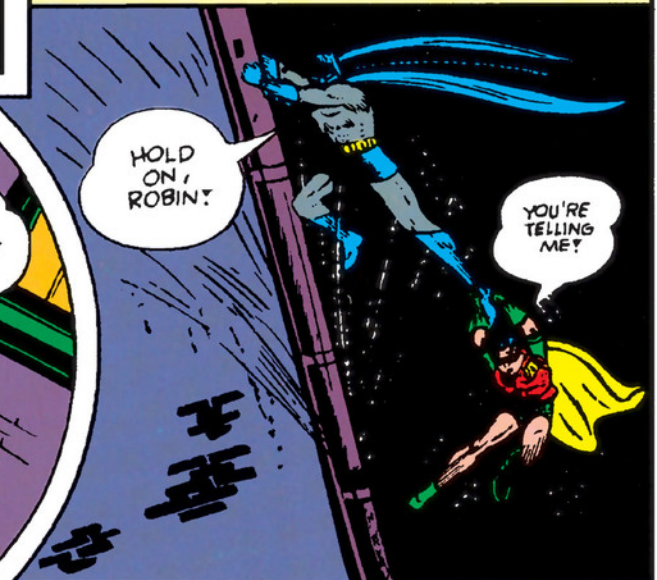
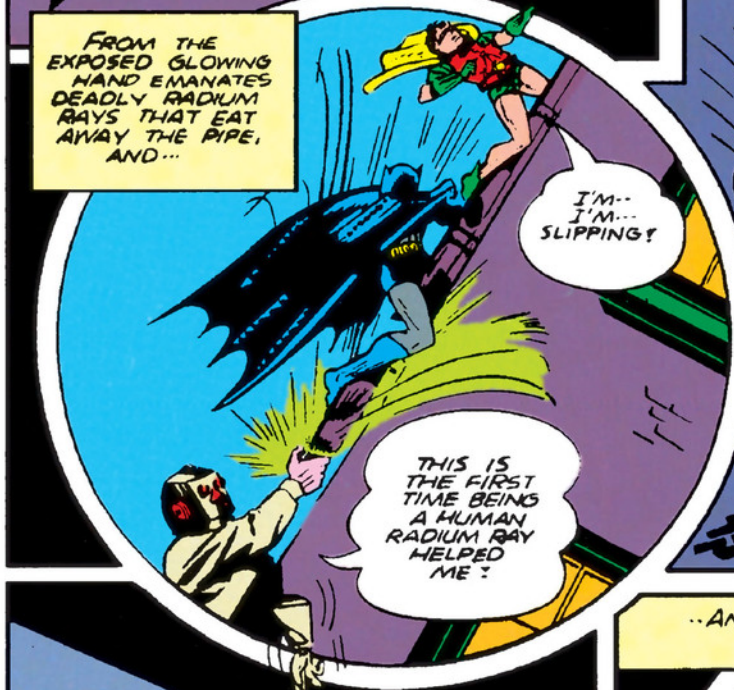


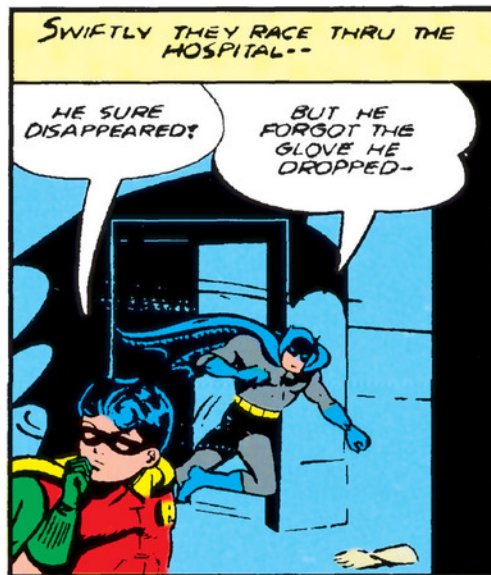
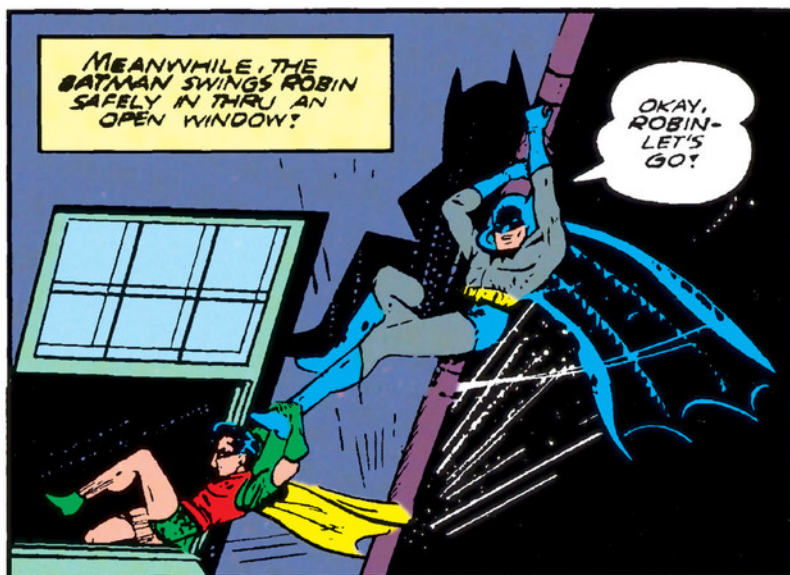
I CAN SLIP PAST THOSE GUARDS EASILY ENOUGH AND GET INTO THE SUPPLY ROOM!

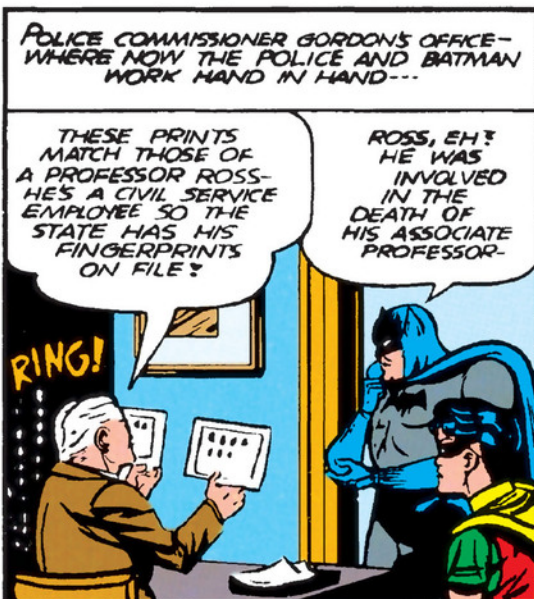
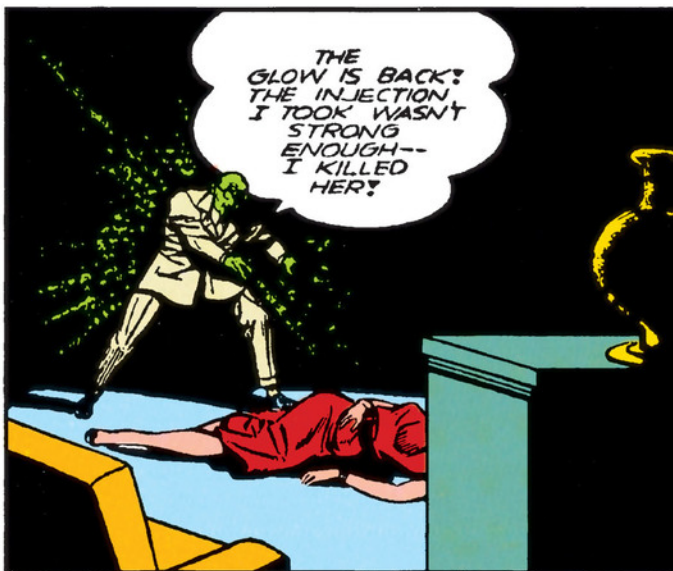
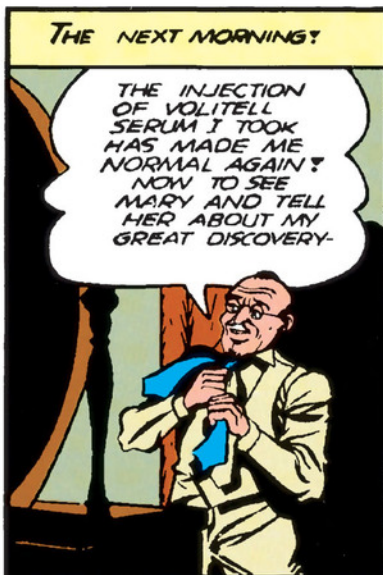


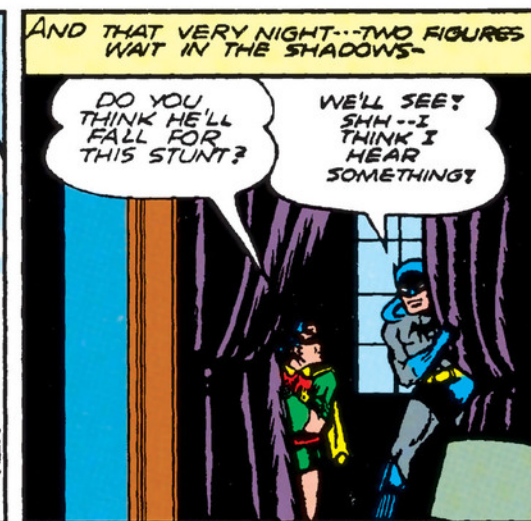
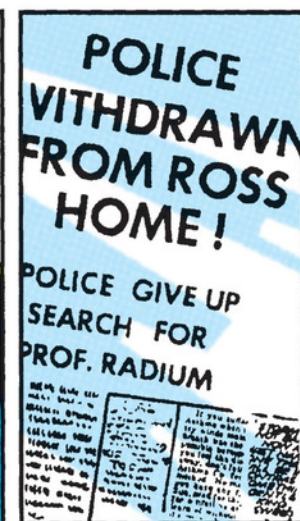
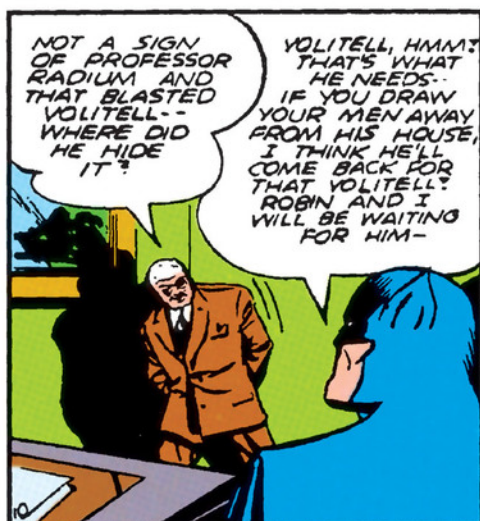


EVEN AS HE DROPS, THE BOY WONDER CLUTCHES THE BATMAN'S ANKLE AND HANGS PERILOUSLY--










SO STRONG IS THE RADIUM-CHARGED BODY OF THE PROFESSOR THAT HE LITERALLY SEARS HIS WAY THROUGH THE DOOR?



GOOD? IT'S EMPTY?

HE RACES SWIFTLY TO HIS LABORATORY AND DONS HIS PROTECTIVE SUIT?

IF I DIDN'T PUT ON THIS SUIT, I MIGHT HAVE SET THE HOUSE ON FIRE! LUCKILY I'VE AN EXTRA GLOVE TO REPLACE THE ONE LOST? NOW-- THE VOLITELL?




HE WITHDRAWS A LARGE BOOK, AND....

THE VOLITELL! THE POLICE NEVER THOUGHT OF LOOKING IN A BOOK FOR IT?



THAT'S ALL I WANTED TO KNOW--- LET'S TAKE HIM, ROBIN?

CHECK?



SWIFTLY PEELING OFF A GLOVE, THE PROFESSOR EXPOSES A GLOWING HAND?


YOU FOOLS! DIE...DIE... NOW?

DEATH-DEALING RADIUM RAYS BOMBARD THE BATMAN AND ROBIN-



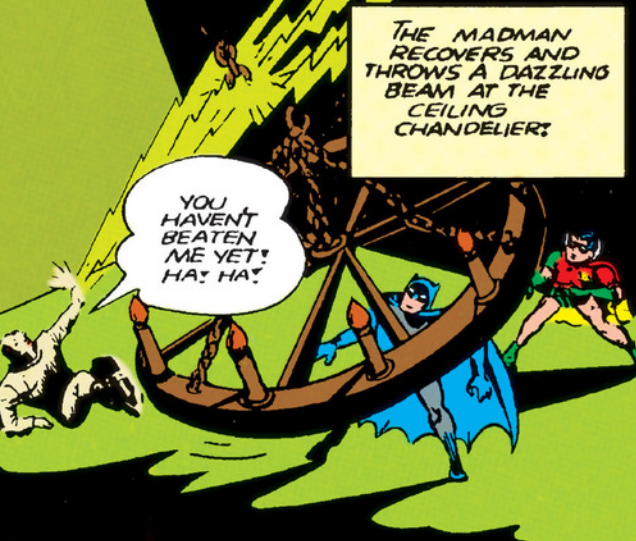
BUT THE DUO REMAINS UNSCATHED...

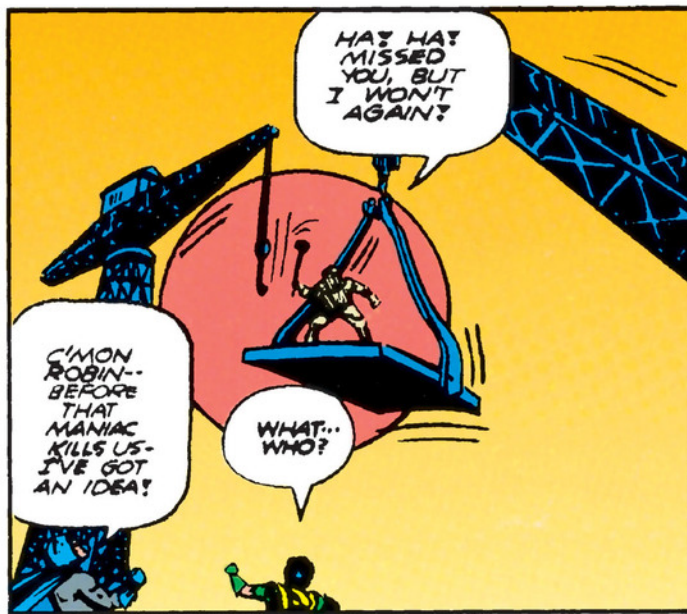
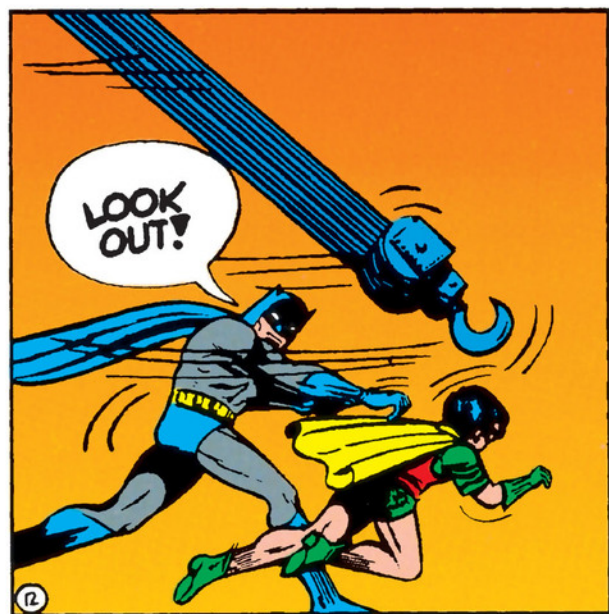
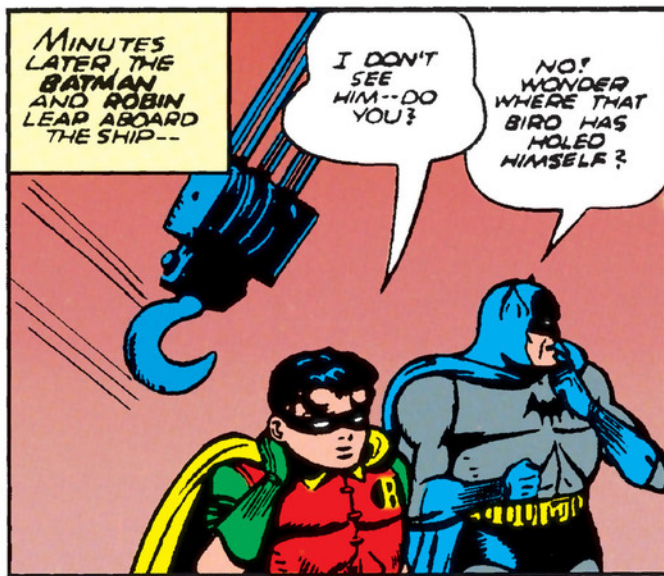
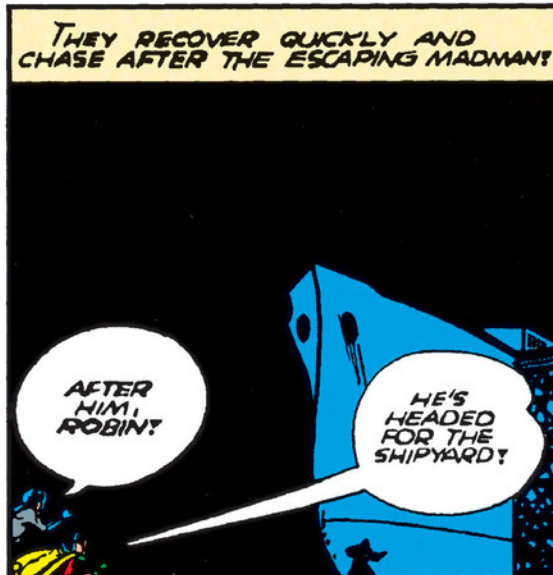
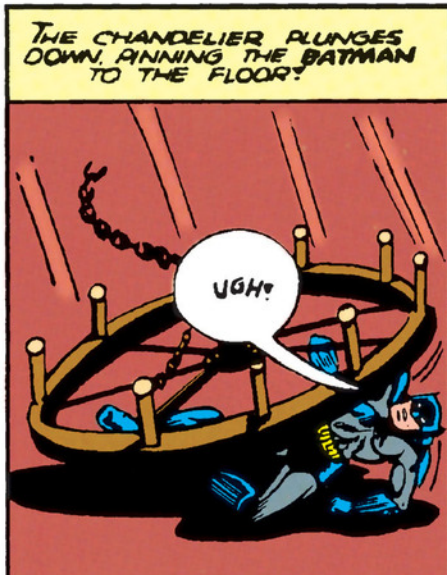
YES---WE'RE STILL ALIVE! I MADE A TRANSPARENT RUBBEROID COMPOSITION THAT I SPRAYED OVER OUR BODIES IMMUNIZING US FROM THE RADIUM-

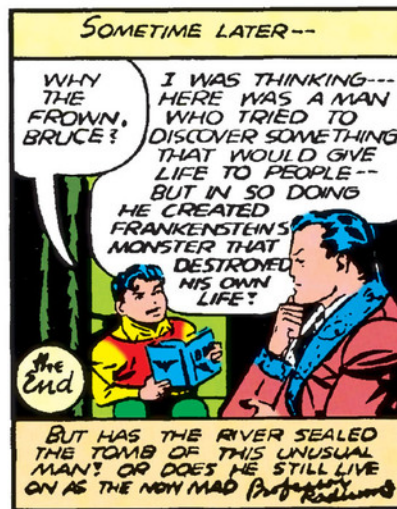
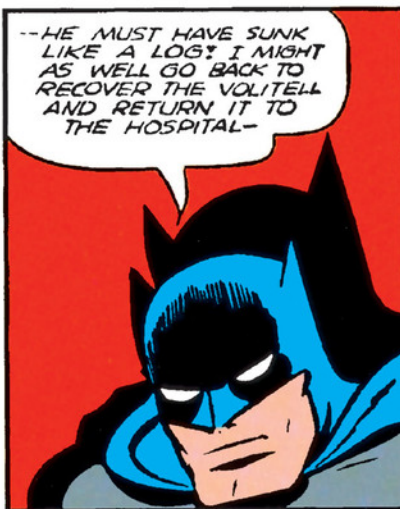
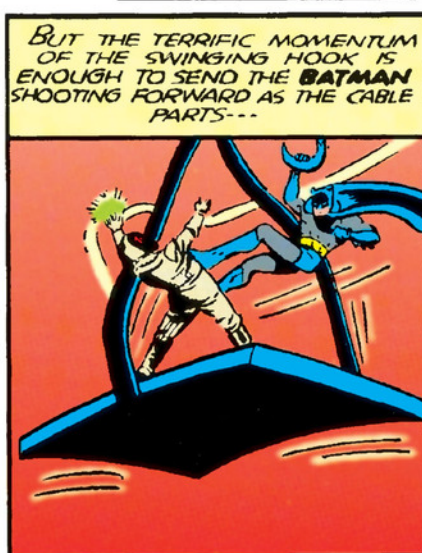
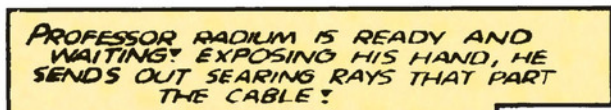
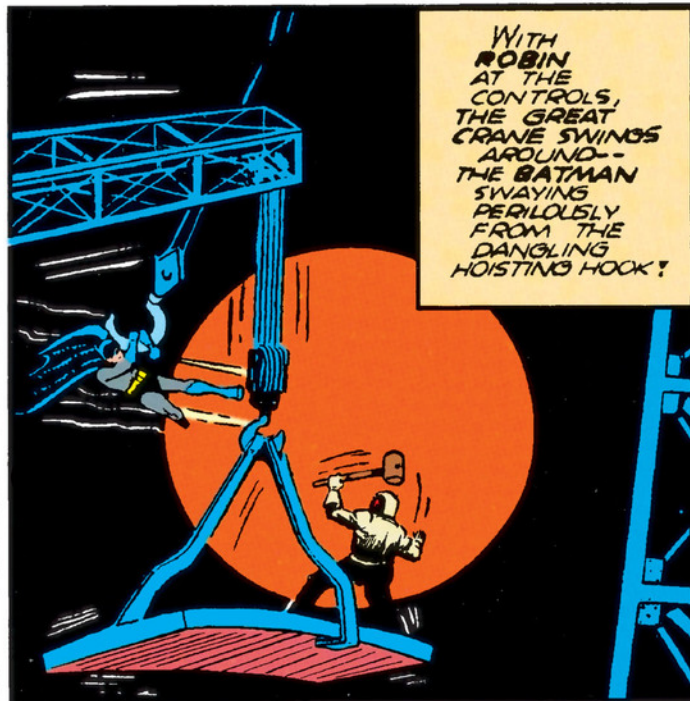
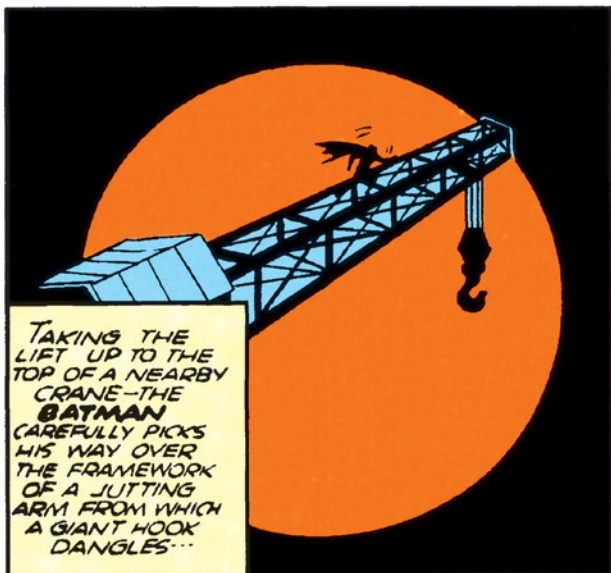


THE MADMAN RECOVERS AND THROWS A DAZZLING BEAM AT THE CEILING CHANDELIER?

YOU HAVEN'T BEATEN ME YET! HA! HA!



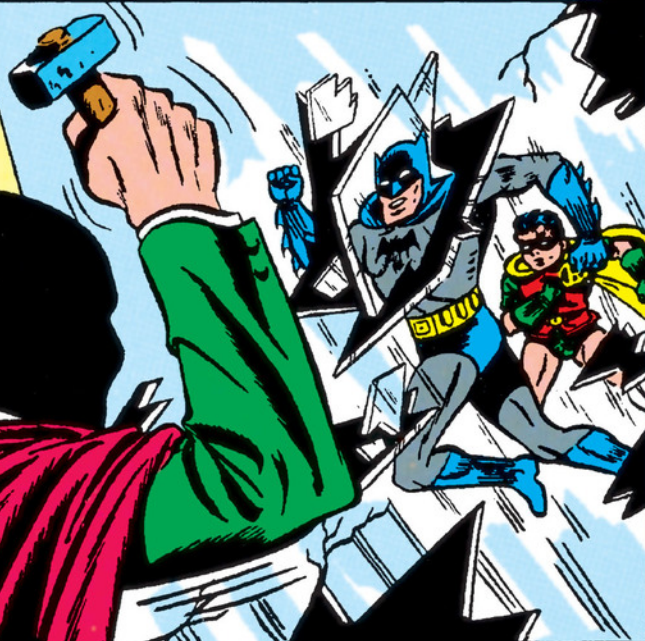




BATMAN

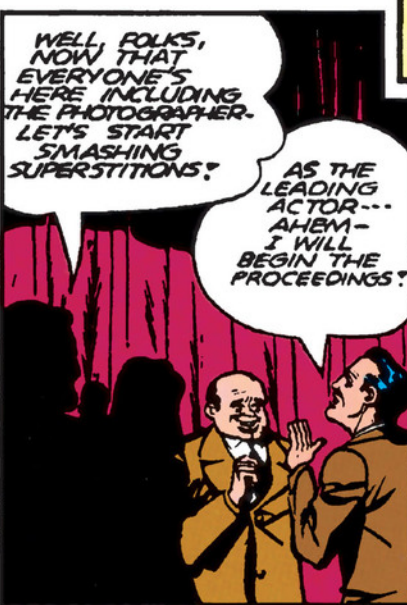
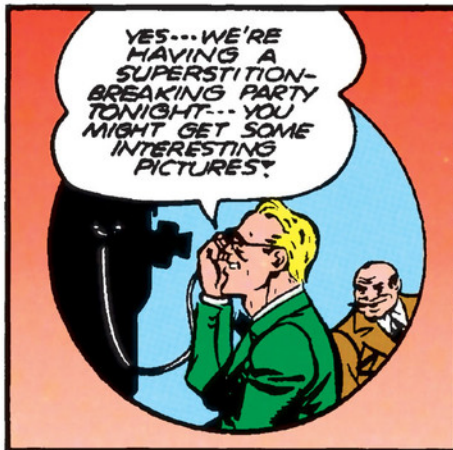
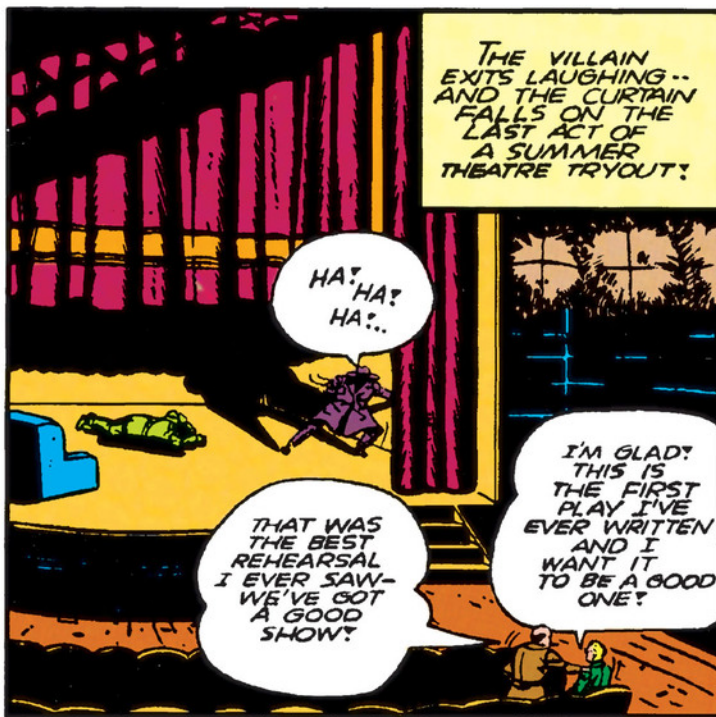
WITH
ROBIN

EVER WALK UNDER A LADDER AND WONDER WHAT WOULD HAPPEN? EVER JUMP IN FRIGHT AS A BLACK CAT CROSSED YOUR PATH? EVER BREAK YEARS OF BAD LUCK WOULD FOLLOW? AND YOU ARE GOING TO WELL...YOU ARE GOING TO BE INTRODUCED TO A GROUP OF PEOPLE WHO DEFIED THESE AGE-OLD SUPERSTITIONS...AND THE STRANGE EVENTS THAT BEFELL THEM.
READ HOW A FEAR OF SUPERSTITION TRANSFORMED A COMPANY OF ACTORS WHO CRINGED RIDDEN WRETCHES WHO CRINGED AT THEIR OWN SHADOWS...AND HOW THE BATMAN AND ROBIN WERE FORCED TO CALL UPON THE LAST OUNCE OF THEIR STRENGTH AND REASONING POWERS TO UNRAVEL THE MYSTERY OF
The Superstition Murders!



A GLISTENING NEEDLE ENTERS THE BODY OF A TINY DOLL-----A HAND CLUTCHES AT A FALTERING HEART---AND A LIFELESS BODY FALLS FORWARD!





THREE CIGARETTES ARE LIT ON ONE MATCH?

HOLD IT, FOLKS! GOT IT?

THIS IS FUN! THREE ON A MATCH?

MARK MY WORDS, THIS WON'T BE THE END. WHEN FOLKS START BREAKING SUPERSTITIONS-- THINGS ARE BOUND TO HAPPEN! WAIT AND SEE ??



THE PHOTOGRAPHER JOINS THE PARTY--

EXCUSE IT-- BUT I'M GETTIN' INTO THE SPIRIT OF THINGS!

SURE-- THAT MAKES YOU ONE OF US!



YELLOW EYES SHINING --AND FUR ERECT-- A BLACK CAT STALKS IN...

LOOK! WE HAVE COMPANY-- COME, KITTY... KITTY... CROSS MY PATH!

SOME- HOW, I DON'T LIKE THIS-- IT'S AS IF THEY WERE INVITING TROUBLE



ANOTHER SUPERSTITION IS BROKEN--AN UMBRELLA IS OPENED INDOORS?

THIS IS ONE ON ME! MAYBE IT'S GONNA RAIN-- HA? HA?

ISN'T THIS FUN?

FRANKLY--- NO! I DON'T LIKE IT!

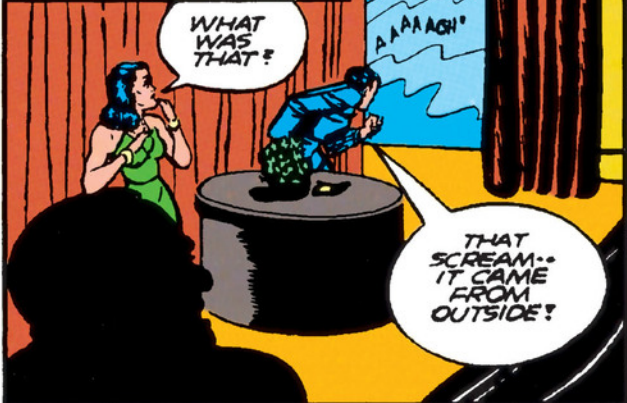


LATER--AS THE PARTY GROWS WILDER A TERRIFIED SHRIEK FOLLOWED BY THE SOUND OF A FALLING BODY ... CUTS THROUGH THE MERRY-MAKERS' DIN?

WHAT WAS THAT?

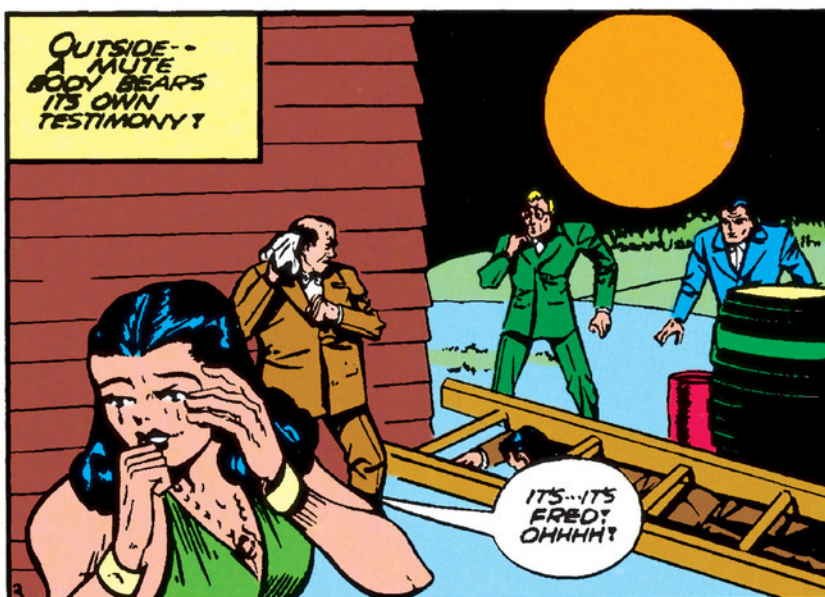
A AAAASH!

THAT SCREAM-- IT CAME FROM OUTSIDE!



OUTSIDE-- A MUTE BODY BEARS ITS OWN TESTIMONY?

IT'S--IT'S FRED! OHHHH?



THE LADDER KILLED HIM-- AND HE WAS THE ONE WHO LAUGHED AS HE WALKED UNDER ONE A LITTLE WHILE AGO?

SO YE THOUGHT YE KNEW EVERYTHIN' ? LEMME TELL YE THAT THERE ARE THINGS WHICH CAIN'T BE TAMPERED WITH-- AN' SUPERSTITION IS ONE OF 'EM!



SOMEONE CALLS THE LOCAL POLICE ...

I'D SAY THE LADDER FELL ON HIM? IT WAS AN ACCIDENT!

I'D LIKE TO EXAMINE THAT GLASS NEAR THE BODY?

A FEW MINUTES LATER---

ACCIDENT-- HUH? THEM POLICE NEVER DID HEV BRAINS? ITS MURDER--

HE MAY BE RIGHT-- I'LL KNOW AFTER I EXAMINE THAT GLASS! I'LL KICK IT TO THE SIDE AS IF BY ACCIDENT!

IN HIS LABORATORY, THE PHOTOGRAPHER DEVELOPS THE PARTY'S PICTURES--WHEN--

WELL-- THAT OLD COOT WAS RIGHT? THAT WAS NO ACCIDENT-- IT WAS MURDER!

LATER ---

I GOT YOUR PHONE CALL-- WHAT DO YOU WANT?

NOTHING-- EXCEPT-- EXAMINE THIS PICTURE?

IT SHOWS YOU PUTTING POISON, FROM THE TRICK RING ON YOUR HAND, INTO BROOKS' GLASS? ER-- WOULD YOU LIKE TO BUY THE PICTURE--- FOR A PRICE?

I SEE--

BLACKMAIL!

MEANWHILE--

TWO THINGS HAVE TO BE CLEARED UP-- ONE IS FRED'S DRINKING GLASS--AND THE OTHER IS THAT LADDER?

LATER-- AFTER RETURNING FROM THE PHOTOGRAPHER--

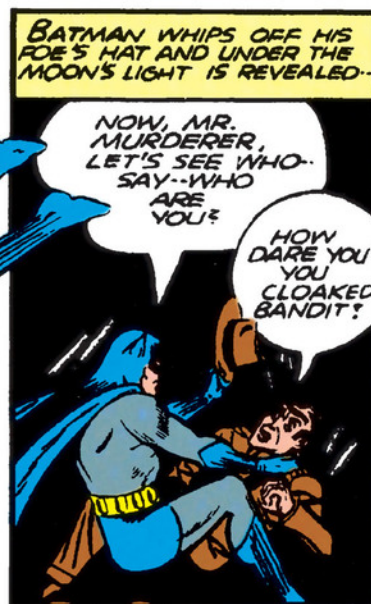
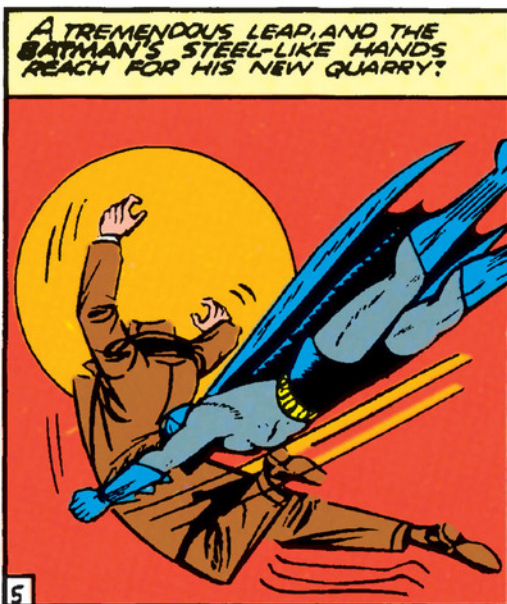
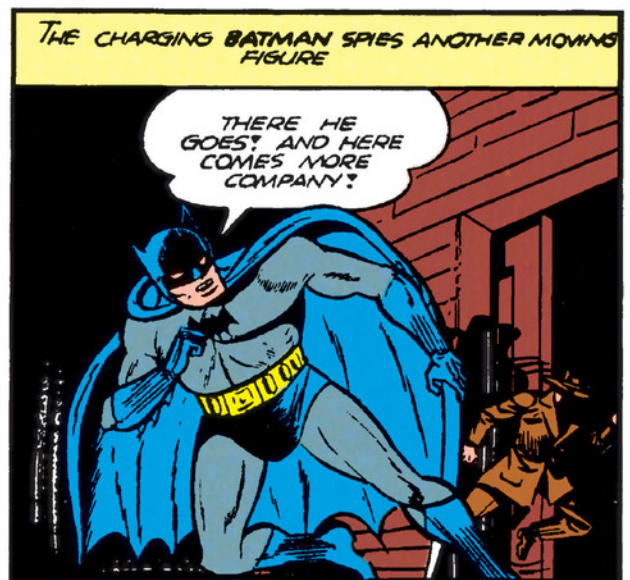
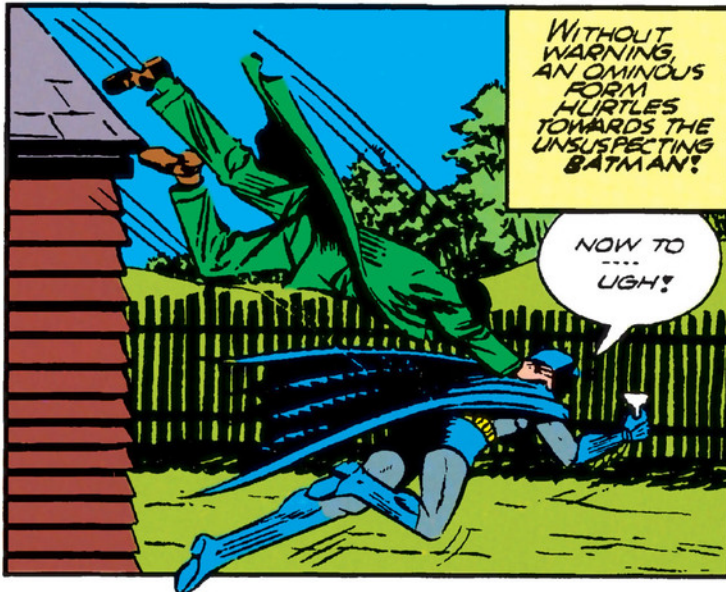
YOU OUTLIVED YOUR USEFULNESS!

THE BATMAN GLIDES SILENTLY OVER THE HARD-PAVED GROUND?

HERE'S HOPING NOBODY'S MOVED ANYTHING?

OUTSIDE THE THEATRE-BARN, HE FINDS--

AH! HERE IT IS! JUST AS I SUSPECTED-- AN ODOR LIKE THAT OF BURNT ALMONDS? THIS MAN WAS MURDERED-- POISONED BY PRUSSIC ACID!



BATMAN EXPLAINS ABOUT THE PRUSSIC ACID...

IN OTHER WORDS, WHOEVER HAS THE GLASS ON HIM, IS-- THE MURDERER?

THAT'S RIGHT-- AND I'M STARTING MY SEARCH WITH METT, HERE?

SURE-- PICK ON ME-- BECAUSE I LOST THE PART! YOU THINK I KILLED BROOKS?



AS THE PANICKY ACTOR SQUEEZES THE TRIGGER, A FIGURE LEAPS FORWARD?

I'VE WARNED YOU-- NOW--

WHEW!



WHILE BATMAN SEARCHES METT, ONE OF THE TROUPE PHONES THE POLICE--

THANKS-- YOU SAVED MY LIFE! I WANT TO SEE WHAT THIS CHAP IS CONCEALING-- WHAT'S THIS? DRAMATIC WRITE-UPS OF PAUL METT? BUT NO GLASS!

DRAMATIC CLIPPINGS? MORE PRECIOUS TO AN ACTOR THAN HIS FOOD-- TOO BAD-- BUT THE PATH TO OBLIVION IS GREASED!



UPON ARRIVING, THE POLICE GREET BATMAN--

BY GINGER, IT'S THE BATMAN?

FRED BROOKS WAS MURDERED, AND I'M CHECKING ON THIS MAN FOR A CLUE?

SORRY, MISTER BATMAN, BUT ONLY TEN MINUTES AGO WE LET HIM OUT OF THE MOOSE GOW WHERE HE WAS CONFINED FER DRUNKENNESS!



THE OTHERS ARE SEARCHED-- BUT NO GLASS!

BANKS, YOU AND BROOKS WERE IN PARTNERSHIP ON ALL YOUR SHOWS-- IT SEEMS TO ME THAT YOU ARE THE ONE TO PROFIT MOST BY HIS ---ER-- DEATH?

IF I HAD ANY INTENTIONS OF COMMITTING MURDER-- I WOULD DO IT MORE CLEVERLY!



A CRACKING VOICE RIPS THROUGH THE NIGHT-AIR----

MARK MY WORDS-- THERE'LL BE MORE MURDERS! ONLY IGNORANT PEOPLE ABUSE SUPERSTITION!

HE MEANS US!



LATER---

--YOU'LL HAVE TO WORK FAST TO PREVENT MORE MURDERS?

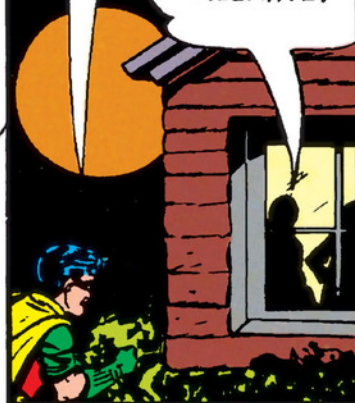
THAT GLASS WAS MY ONLY CLUE AND IT'S GONE-- I WONDER IF THE PHOTOGRAPHER WOULD-- SAY-- I'VE GOT IT! TOMORROW NIGHT, I WANT YOU TO SEE THE PHOTOGRAPHER LOOK AT THE PICTURES HE SNAPPED-- ONE OF THEM MAY CONTAIN A CLUE!

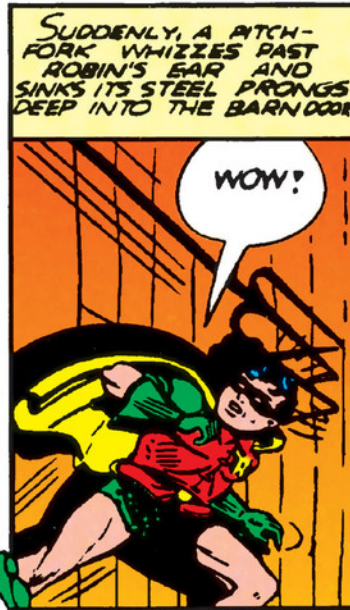
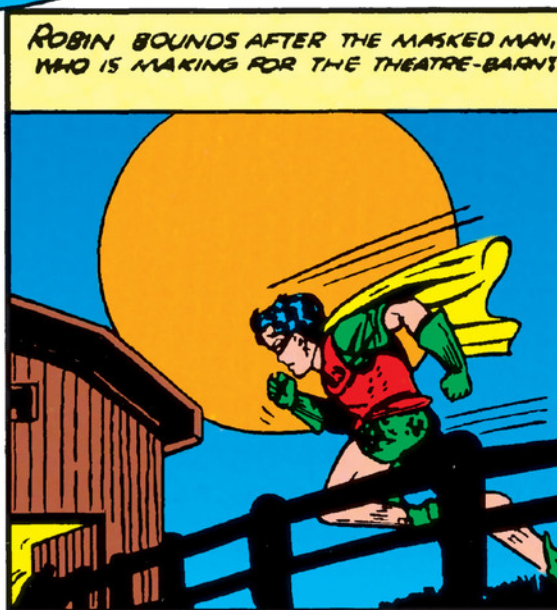
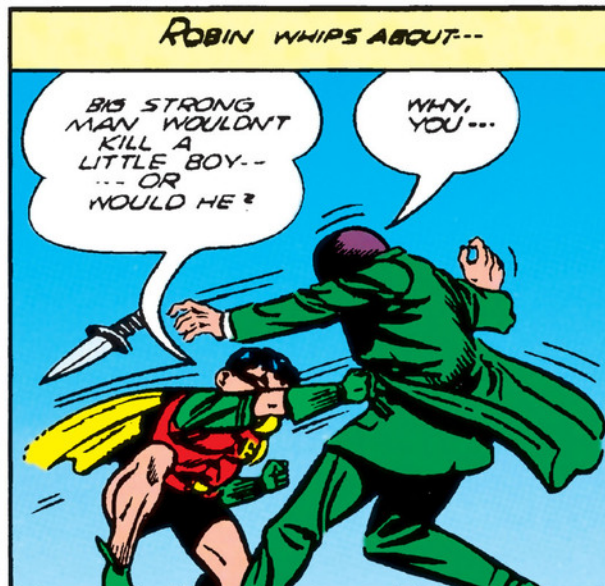
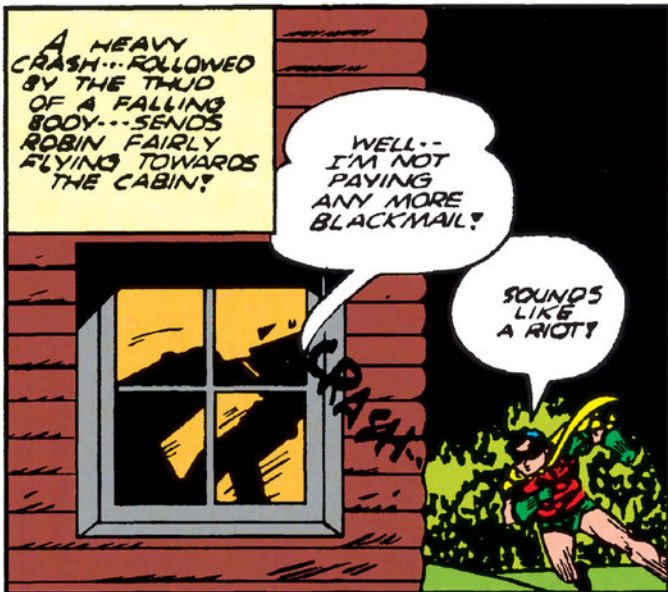


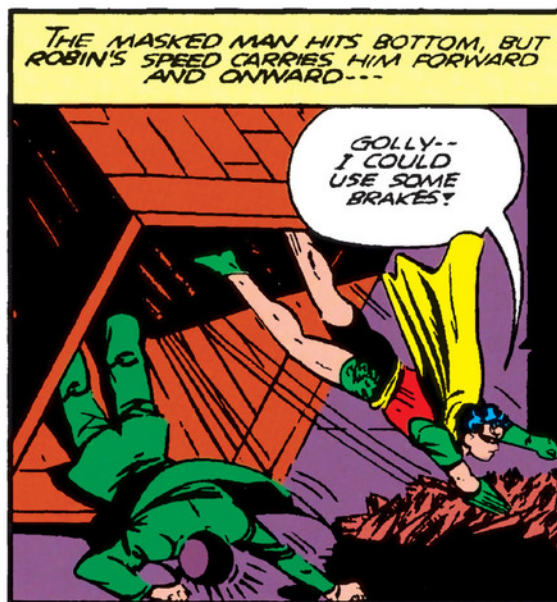
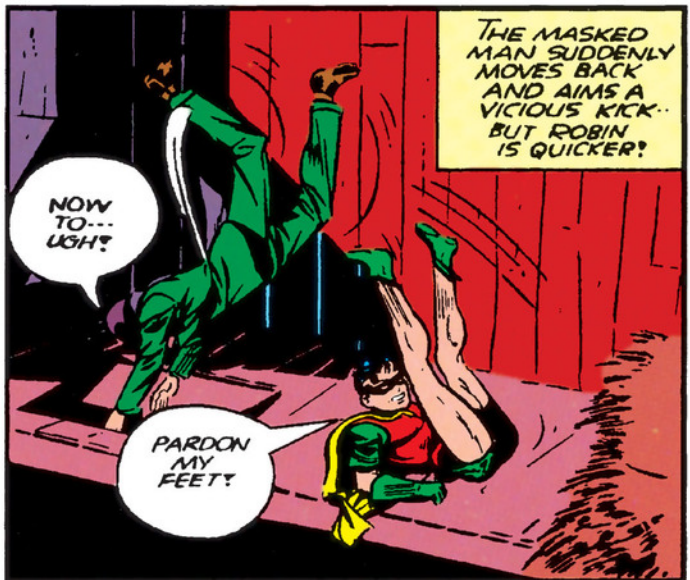
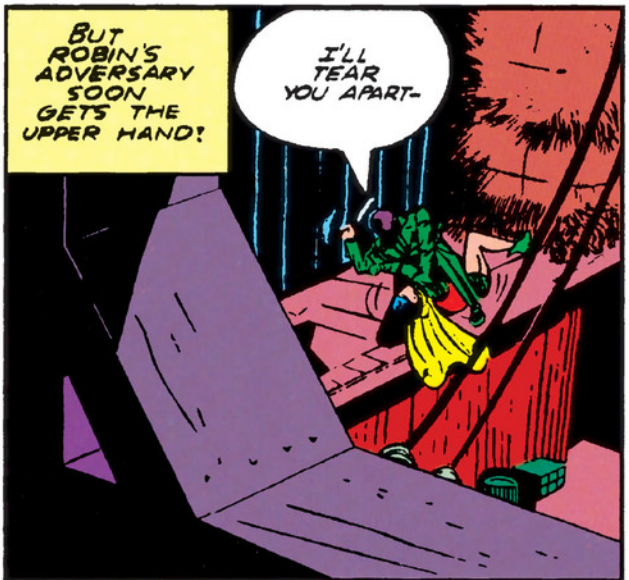
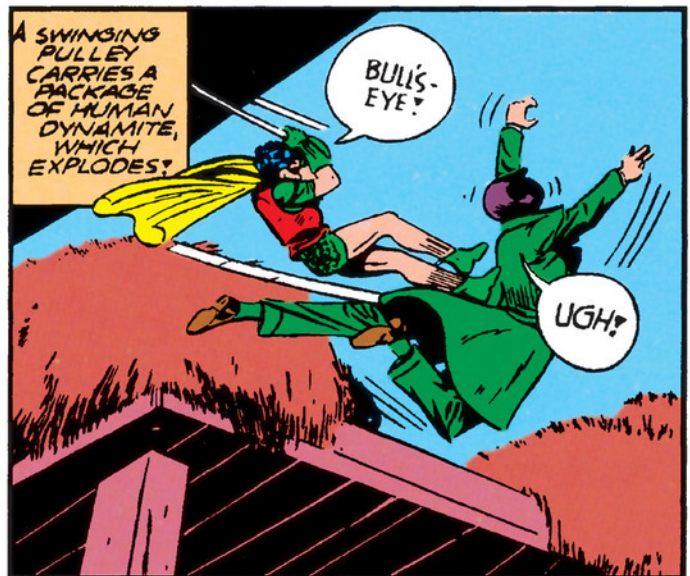
NEXT NIGHT-- THE PHOTOGRAPHER'S CABIN!

WHAT'S THAT?

I PAID FOR THE PICTURE, BUT YOU KEPT THE NEGATIVE!









LOOKS LIKE MY MASKED PAL GOT AWAY! AND SO HELP ME, IF ANYBODY EVER MENTIONS CORN TO ME-- I'LL--I'LL--



LATER, WHEN ROBIN REPORTS BACK TO THE BATMAN...

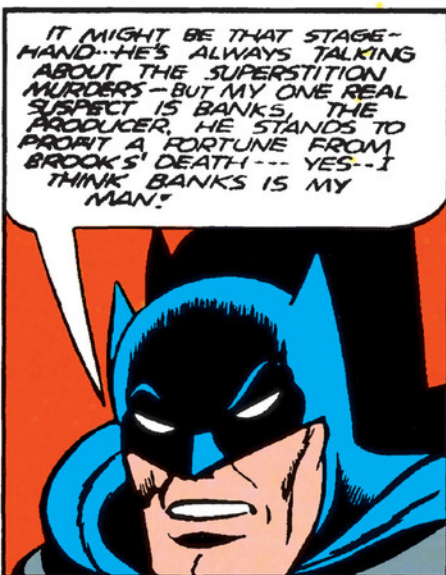
---AND AFTER HE GOT AWAY, I SEARCHED THE GROUNDS FOR A CLUE-- AND FOUND THIS:

"LARRY PAINE-- ARGUS PICTURES HOLLYWOOD-- WELL--IT LOOKS AS IF I HAVE TO MAKE A LONG DISTANCE CALL TO HOLLYWOOD AND LEARN A FEW THINGS."

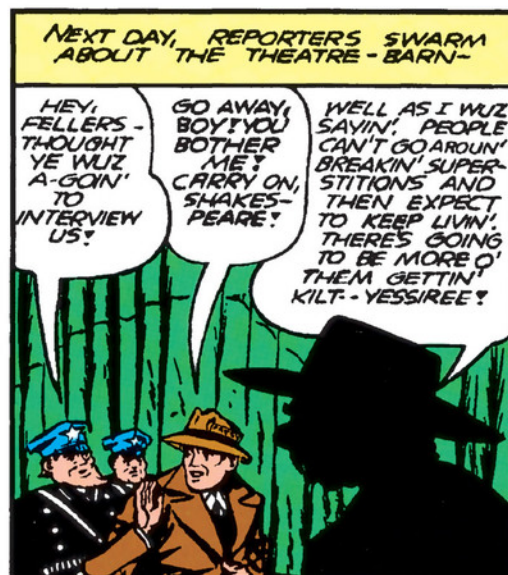


I WISH I KNEW WHO OUR MURDERER WAS?

SO DO I? IT CERTAINLY ISN'T JOHNNY GLIM, THE AUTHOR, HE SAVED MY LIFE WHEN PAUL METT TRIED TO KILL ME! HE CERTAINLY WOULDN'T SAVE THE LIFE OF THE DETECTIVE IF HE WERE GUILTY?



IT MIGHT BE THAT STAGE-HAND--HE'S ALWAYS TALKING ABOUT THE SUPERSTITION MURDERS--BUT MY ONE REAL SUSPECT IS BANKS, THE PRODUCER, HE STANDS TO PROFIT A FORTUNE FROM BROOKS' DEATH--- YES--I THINK BANKS IS MY MAN!

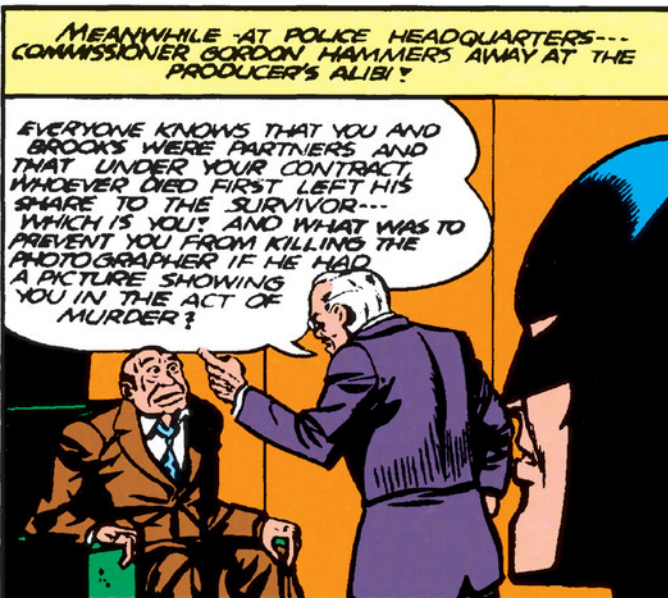


NEXT DAY, REPORTERS SWARM ABOUT THE THEATRE-BARN--

HEY, FELLERS-- THOUGHT YE WUZ A-GON' TO INTERVIEW US?

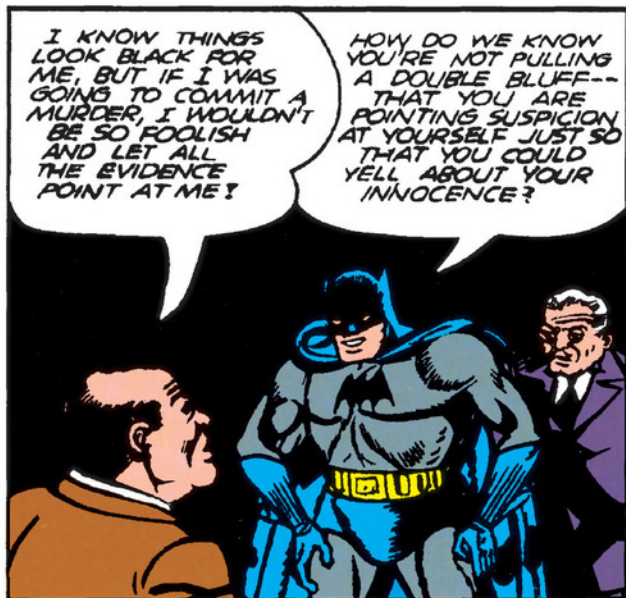
GO AWAY, BOY! YOU BOTHER ME! CARRY ON, SHAKES-PEARE!

WELL AS I WUZ SAYIN', PEOPLE CAN'T GO AROUND BREAKIN' SUPERSTITIONS AND THEN EXPECT TO KEEP LIVIN'. THERES GOING TO BE MORE O' THEM GETTIN' KILT-- YESSIREE?



MEANWHILE--AT POLICE HEADQUARTERS--- COMMISSIONER GORDON HAMMERS AWAY AT THE PRODUCER'S ALIBI!

EVERYONE KNOWS THAT YOU AND BROOKS WERE PARTNERS AND THAT UNDER YOUR CONTRACT, WHOEVER DIED FIRST LEFT HIS SHARE TO THE SURVIVOR--- WHICH IS YOU? AND WHAT WAS TO PREVENT YOU FROM KILLING THE PHOTOGRAPHER IF HE HAD A PICTURE SHOWING YOU IN THE ACT OF MURDER?



I KNOW THINGS LOOK BLACK FOR ME, BUT IF I WAS GOING TO COMMIT A MURDER, I WOULDN'T BE SO FOOLISH AND LET ALL THE EVIDENCE POINT AT ME!

HOW DO WE KNOW YOU'RE NOT PULLING A DOUBLE BLUFF--- THAT YOU ARE POINTING SUSPICION AT YOURSELF JUST SO THAT YOU COULD YELL ABOUT YOUR INNOCENCE?

AT THE BARN-THEATRE, SCENERY IS BEING TAKEN TO WAITING TRUCKS--FOR TONIGHT--THE PLAY OPENS IN THE CITY!

WELL, CHILLUN, TONIGHT'S THE NIGHT--I'LL BE IN THE FRONT ROW, CHEERING?

DO YOU THINK THE ER--UNFORTUNATE PUBLICITY WILL AFFECT THE SALE OF TICKETS?

THIS PLAY SHOULD NEVER OPEN--IT'S CURSED!

THAT NIGHT, OUTSIDE THE TROJAN THEATRE!

ERS

SUPERSTITION MURDERS

DON'T... DON'T EVEN SAY THAT?

THERE'S YOUR ANSWER, MY FRIEND. THE PUBLIC ALWAYS WILL BE ATTRACTED TO SOMETHING WITH MORBID OVERTONES--THEY'RE PROBABLY HOPING FOR ANOTHER MURDER!

HELLO, BANKS--THOUGHT THE POLICE WERE HOLDING YOU.

THEY COULDN'T HOLD ME--I GOT OUT ON A WRIT OF HABEAS CORPUS--HOLY SMOKE! LOOK AT THAT CROWD!

AS THE CURTAIN RISES, AN ODD SCENE TAKES PLACE IN ONE OF THE DRESSING ROOMS

MEOWRRR--

QUIET--SOON YOU WILL BE PLAYING A STARRING ROLE!

IN THE WINGS--AS THE INGENUE AWAITS HER CUE---

I WOULDN'T WANT TO BE IN YOUR SHOES--HAVING TO CARRY A BLACK CAT ON THE STAGE?

DON'T BE SILLY! THEY ARE MY FAVORITES.

AT THAT MOMENT, A DART STREAKS FROM A BLOW-TUBE--

---AND IMBEDS ITS NEEDLE-POINT INTO THE BLACK CAT'S HIDE--

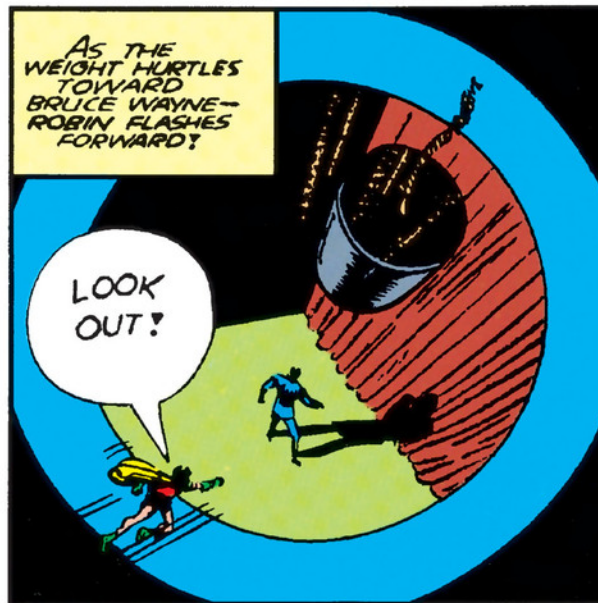
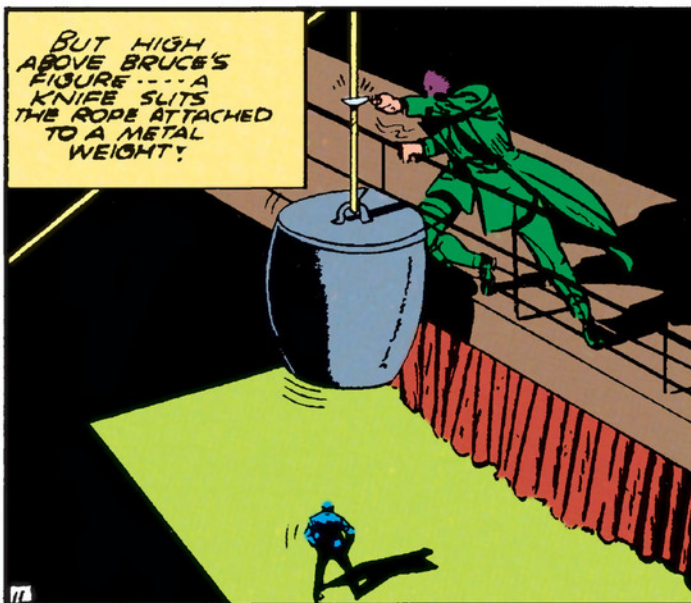
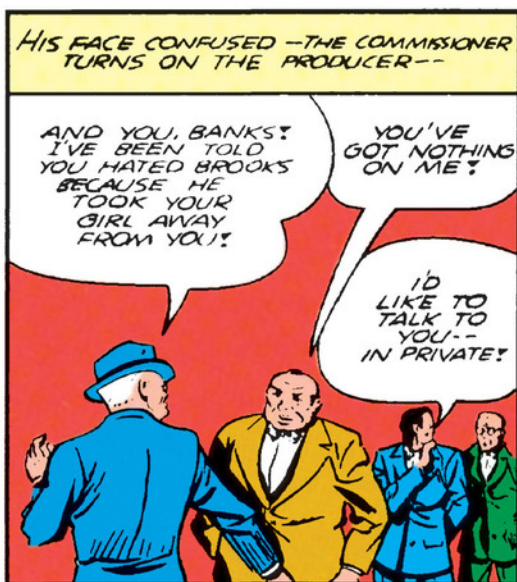
I LOVE CATS--AAAIIIIII--

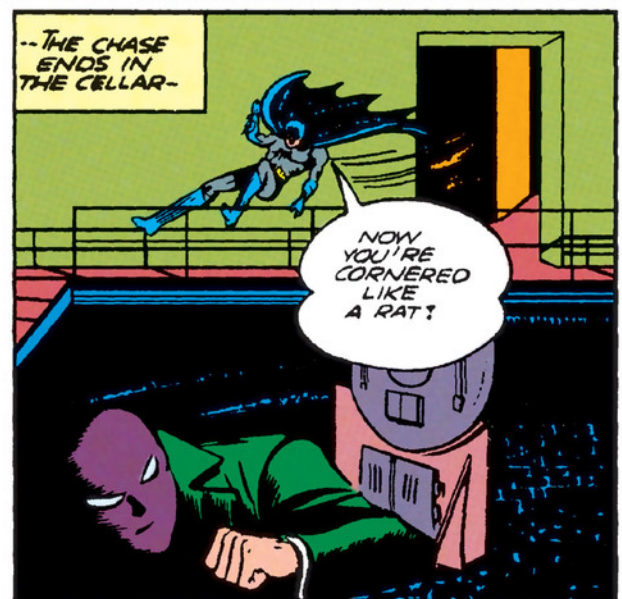
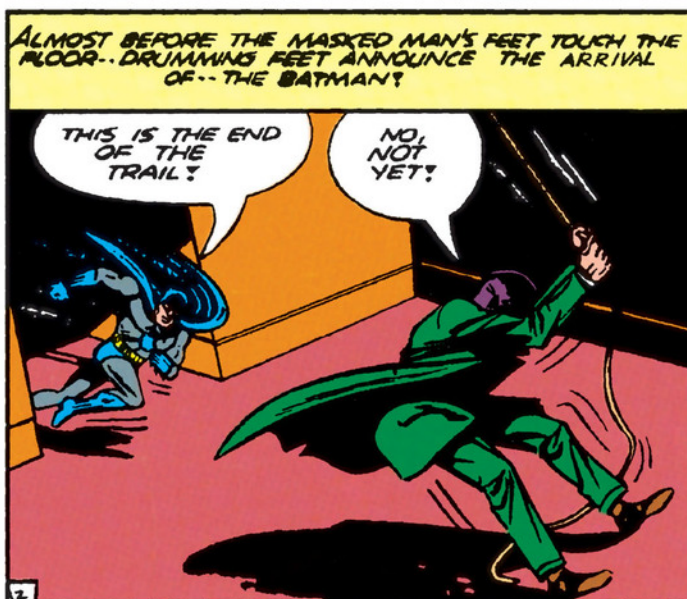
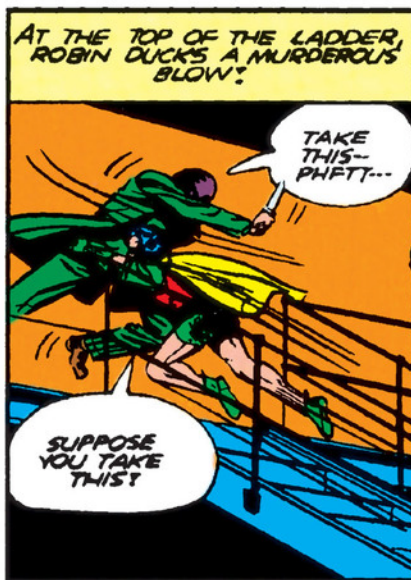
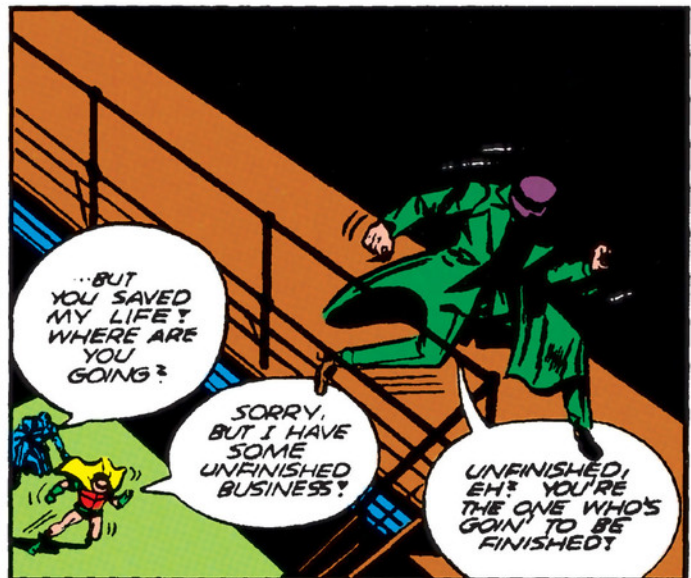
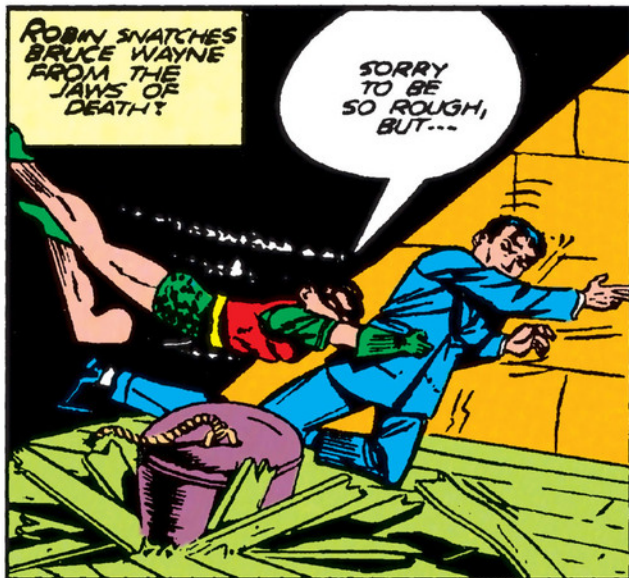
GOOD HEAVENS!

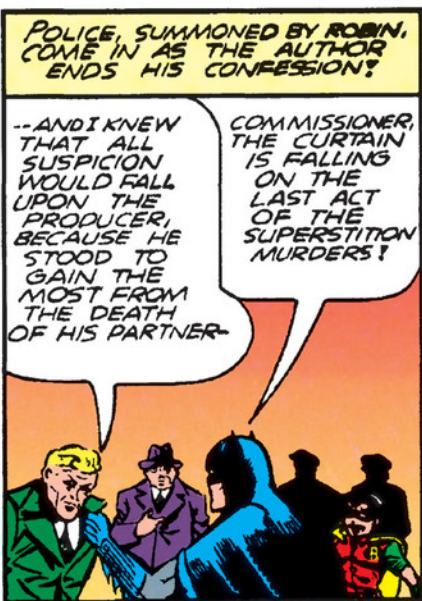
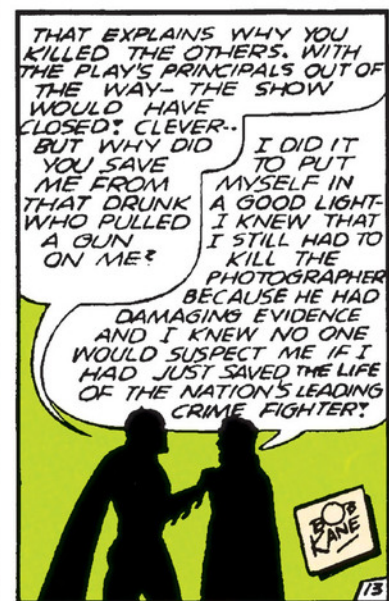
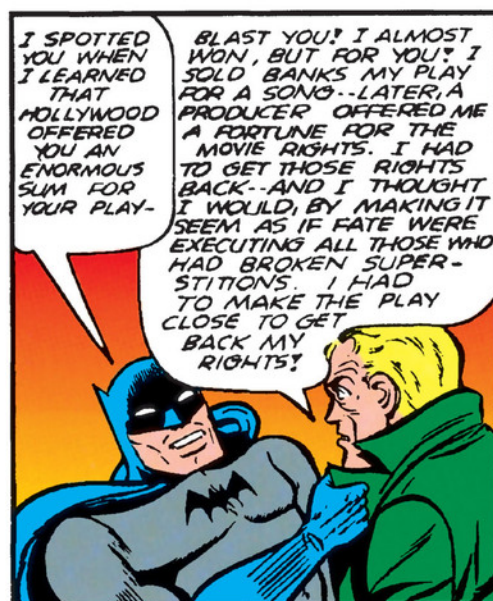
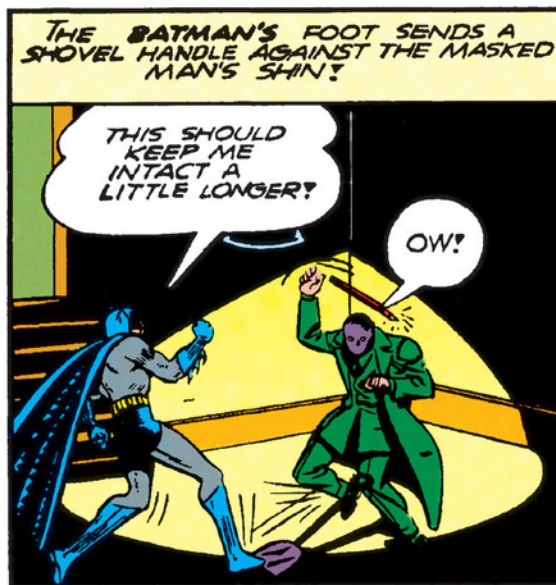
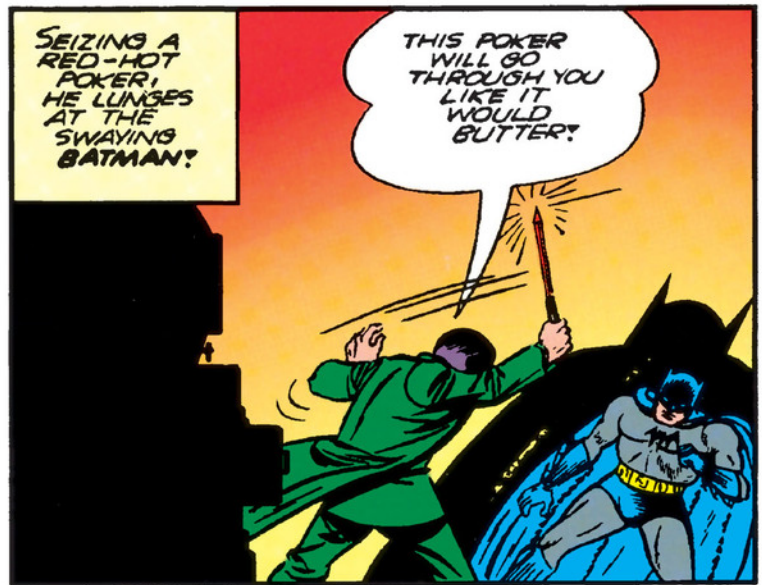
THE BODY TOPPLES TO THE STAGE IN FULL VIEW OF THE AUDIENCE---

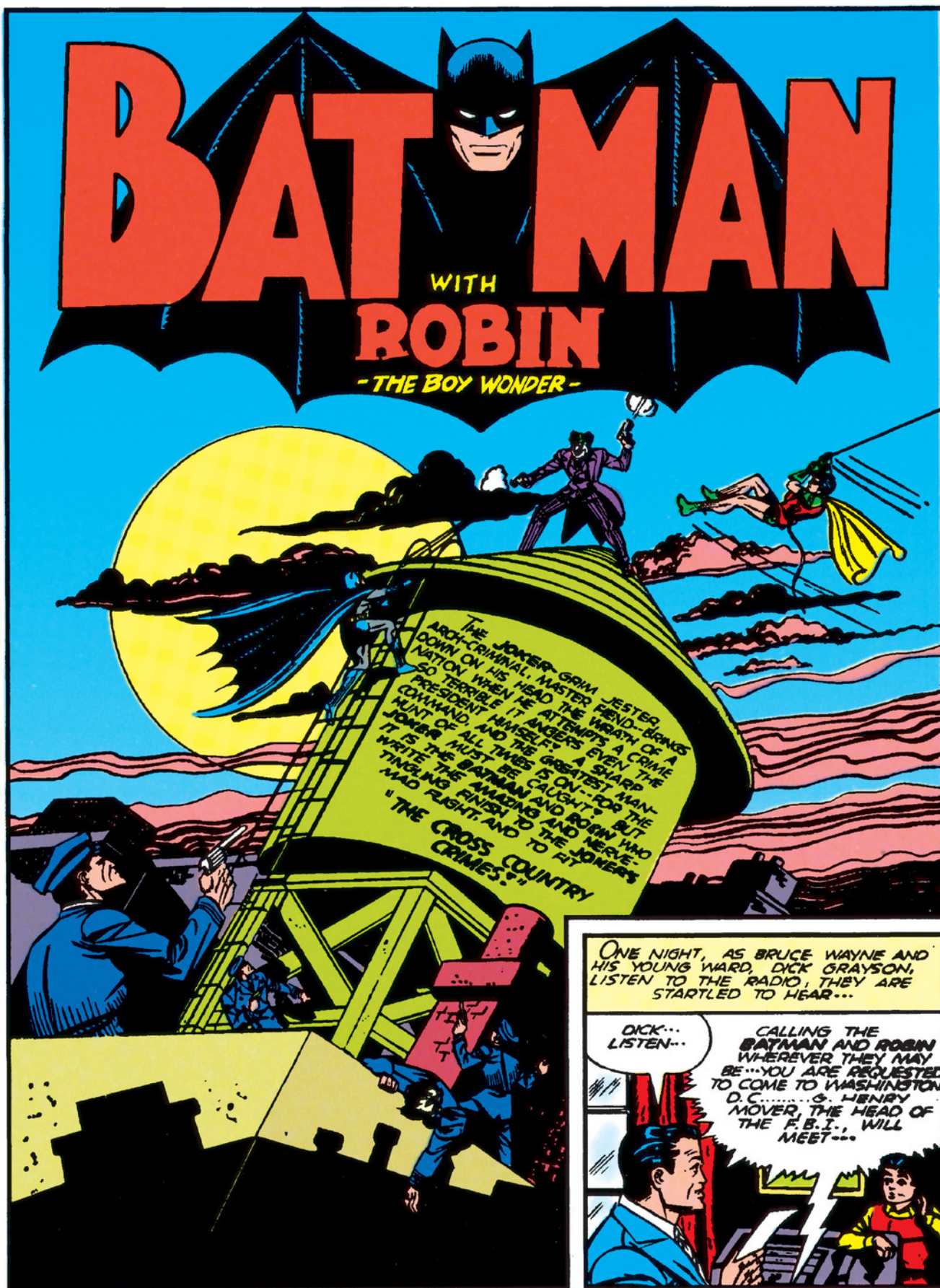
SHE'S-- SHE'S DEAD

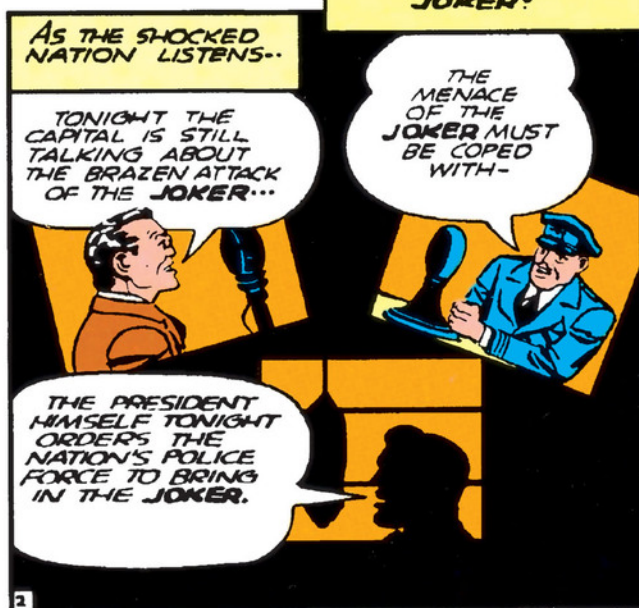
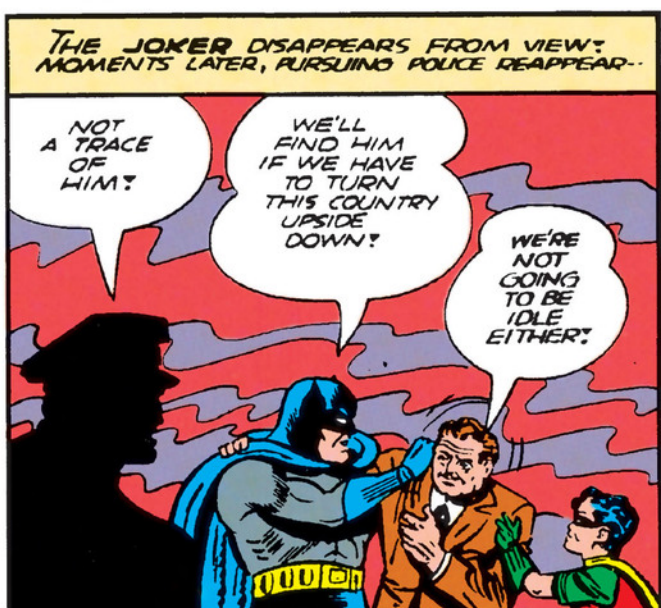
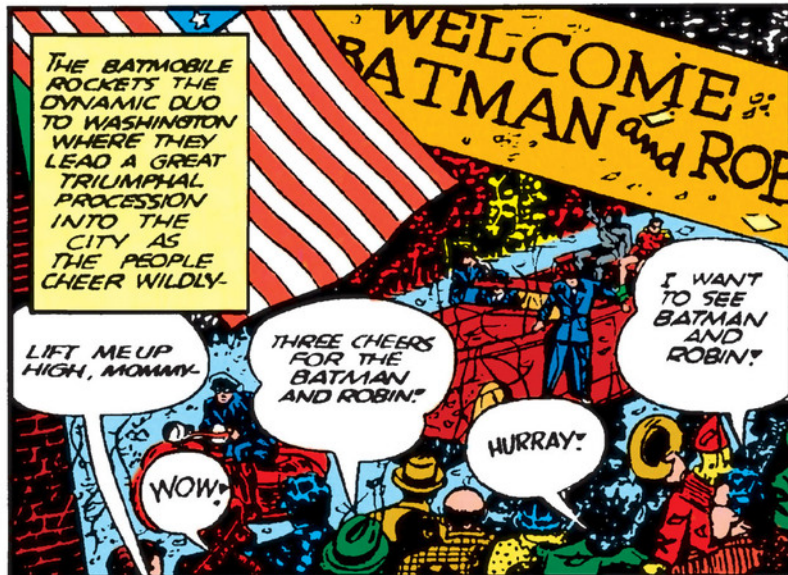
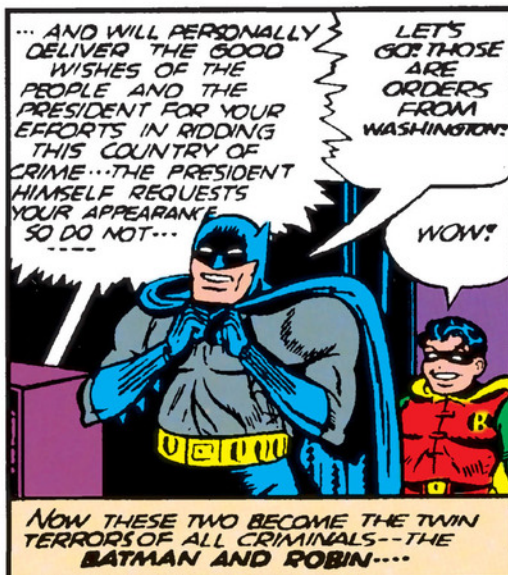
ONCE AGAIN, A VIOLATED SUPERSTITION WREAKS VENGEANCE UPON THE PERSON WHO DARED TO BREAK IT!

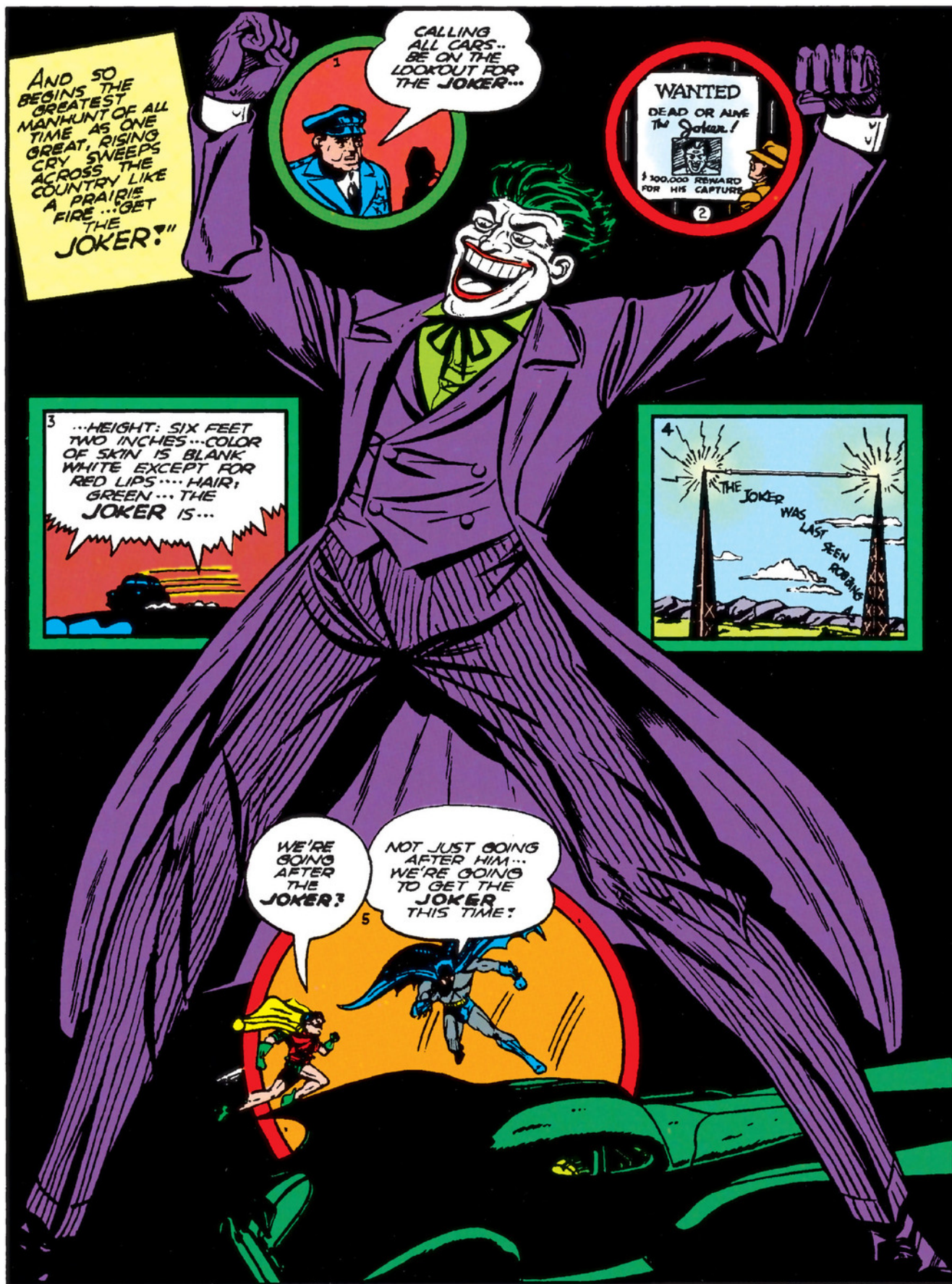












A SMALL RADIO STATION NEARBY--

--- AS YET, THE JOKER HAS NOT APPEARED IN THIS TERRITORY AND...



YOU SPEAK TOO SOON!



GOOD EVENING, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN-- THIS IS A SPECIAL PROGRAM COMING TO YOU FROM THE JOKER! HA! HA! TO THE POLICE AND ESPECIALLY THE BATMAN I HAVE THIS TO SAY--- YOU MAY LOOK FOR ME, BUT YOU WON'T FIND ME! ..

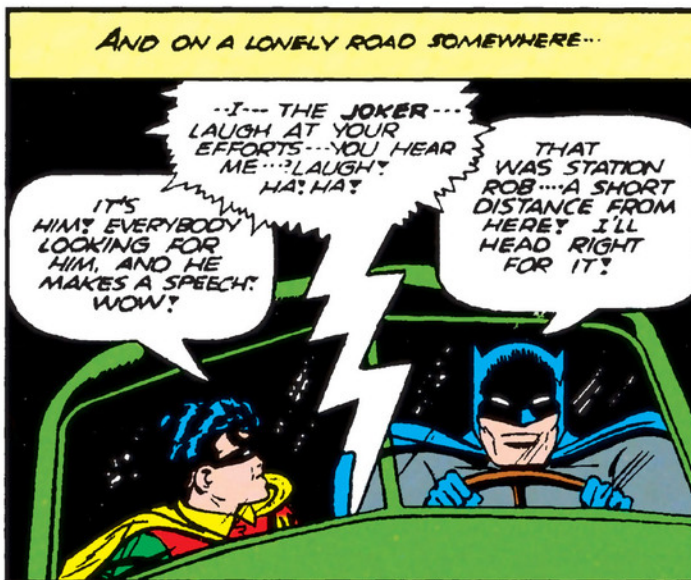


AND ON A LONELY ROAD SOMEWHERE...

--I-- THE JOKER... LAUGH AT YOUR EFFORTS---YOU HEAR ME---LAUGH! HA! HA!

THAT WAS STATION ROB---A SHORT DISTANCE FROM HERE! I'LL HEAD RIGHT FOR IT!

IT'S HIM! EVERYBODY LOOKING FOR HIM, AND HE MAKES A SPEECH! WOW!



BUT WHEN THEY ARRIVE, THEY FIND THE JOKER IS...

GONE! THE JOKER'S GONE!

YES--- BUT HE'S LEFT SOMETHING FOR US!



THE FIRST CLUE?

GUESS WHERE I AM GOING NOW, BATMAN-- HA! HA! HA!



WHAT'S IT MEAN?

THE JOKER'S JUST TOLD US HE'S GONE TO NEW JERSEY-- AND THAT'S WHERE WE'LL PICK UP HIS TRAIL! C'MON!

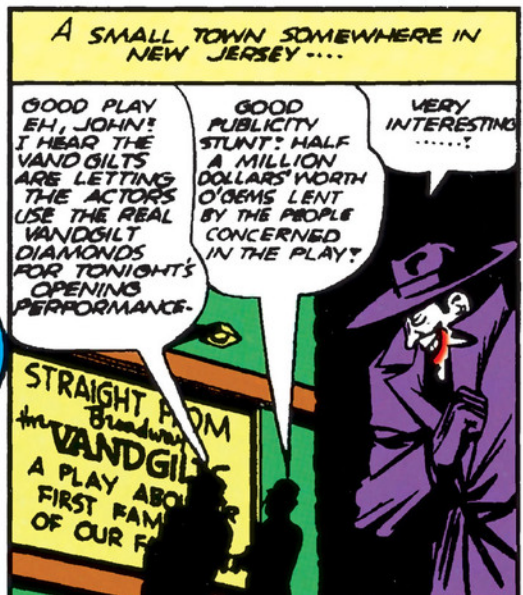


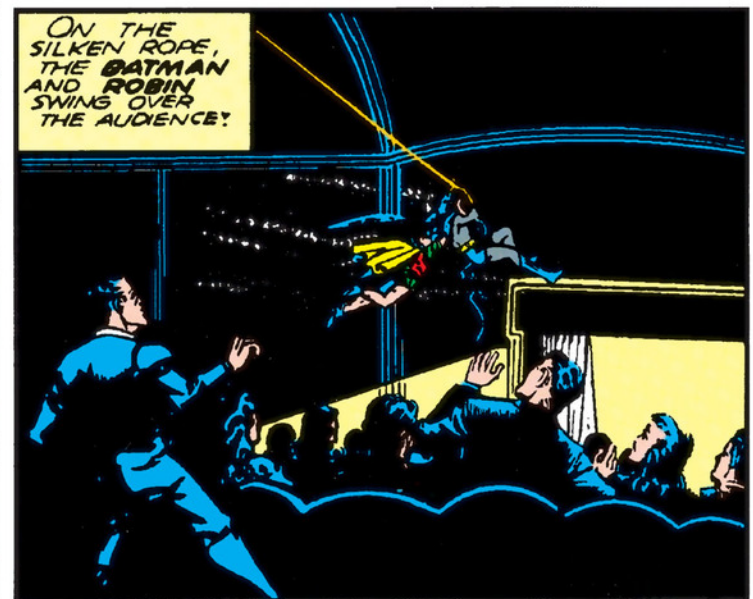
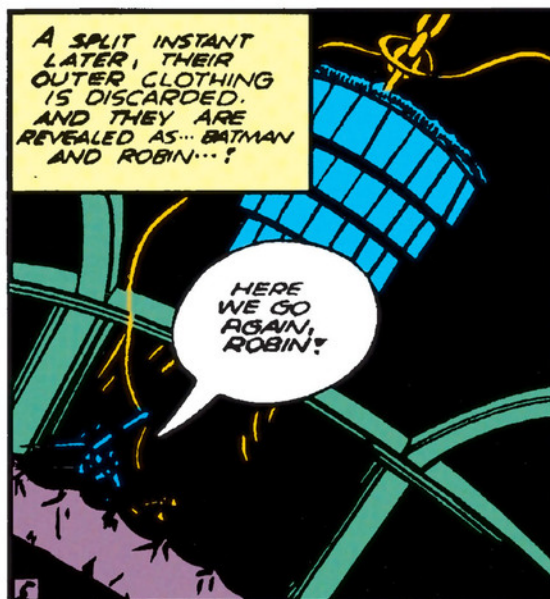
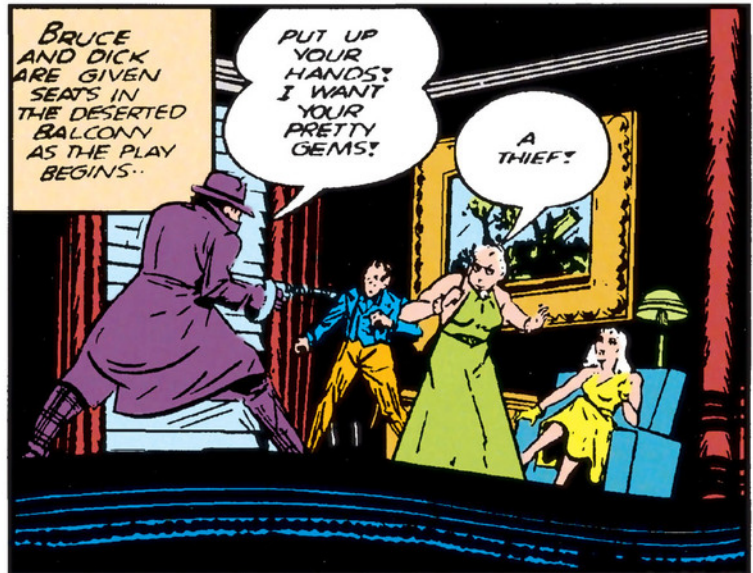
A SMALL TOWN SOMEWHERE IN NEW JERSEY....

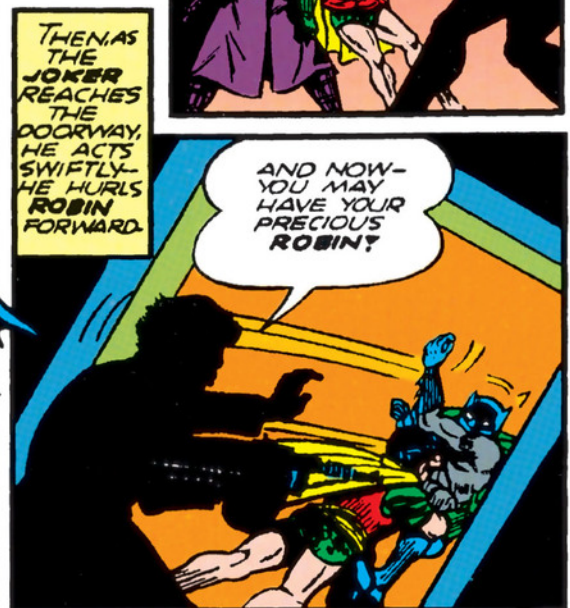
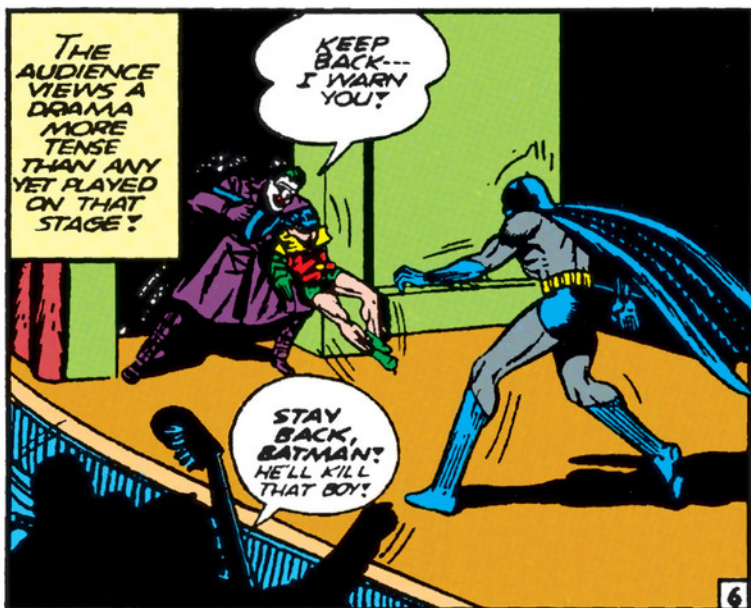
GOOD PLAY EH, JOHN? I HEAR THE VANDGILTS ARE LETTING THE ACTORS USE THE REAL VANDGILT DIAMONDS FOR TONIGHT'S OPENING PERFORMANCE.

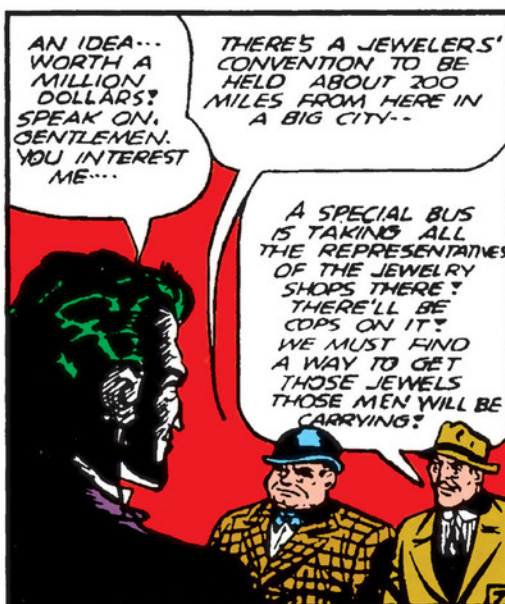
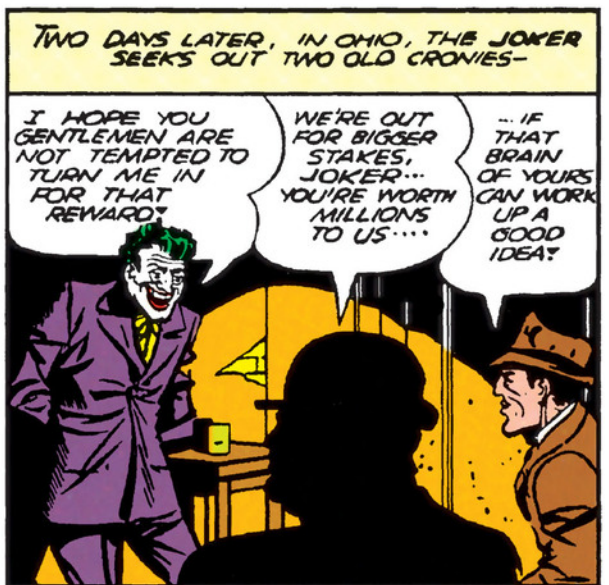
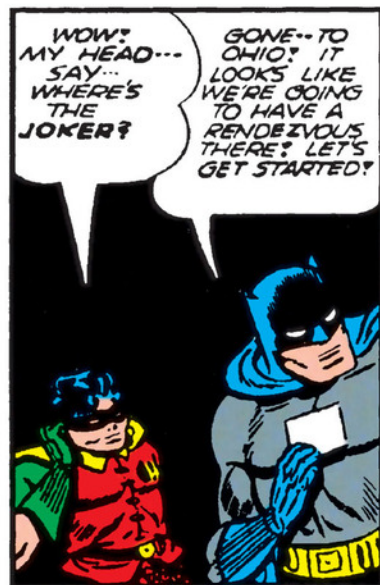
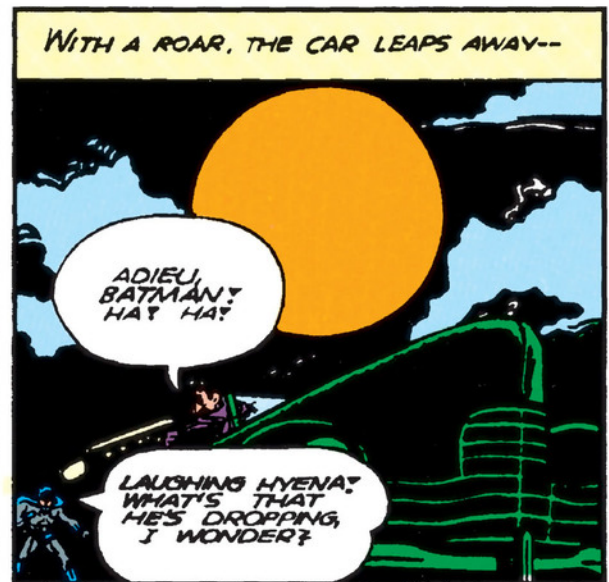
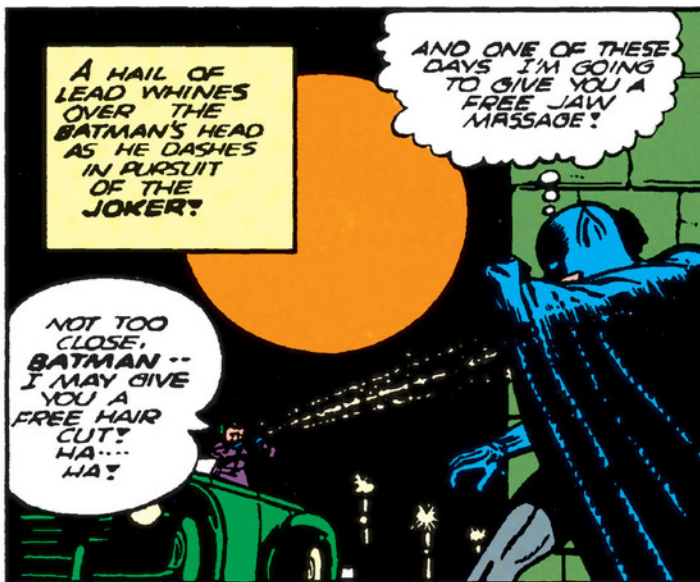
GOOD PUBLICITY STUNT! HALF A MILLION DOLLARS' WORTH O'GEMS LENT BY THE PEOPLE CONCERNED IN THE PLAY!

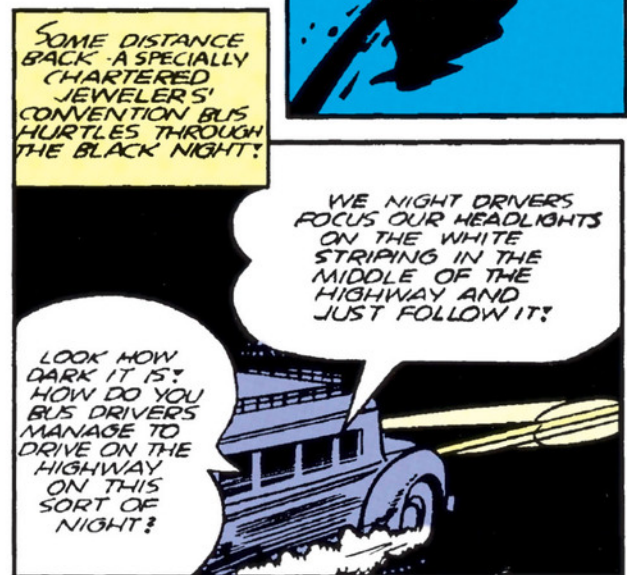
VERY INTERESTING.....

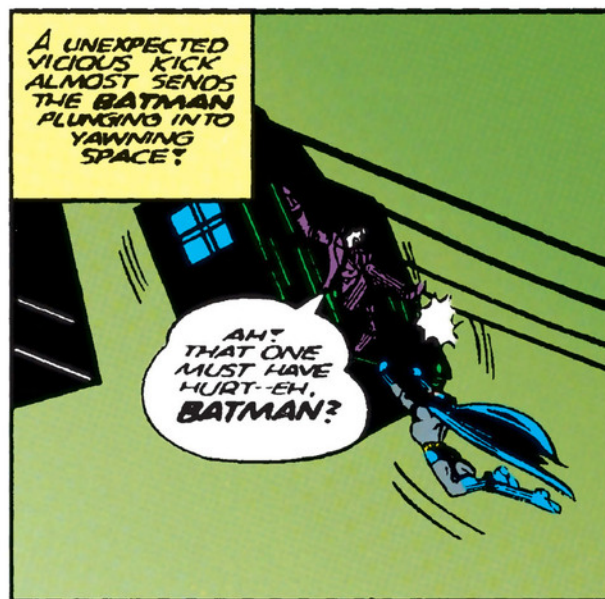
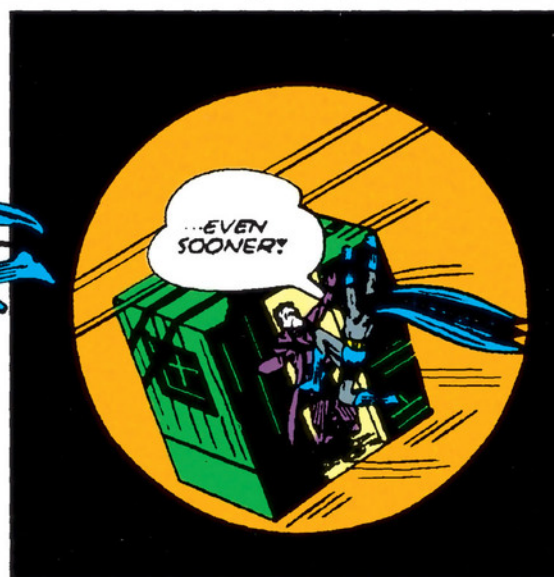
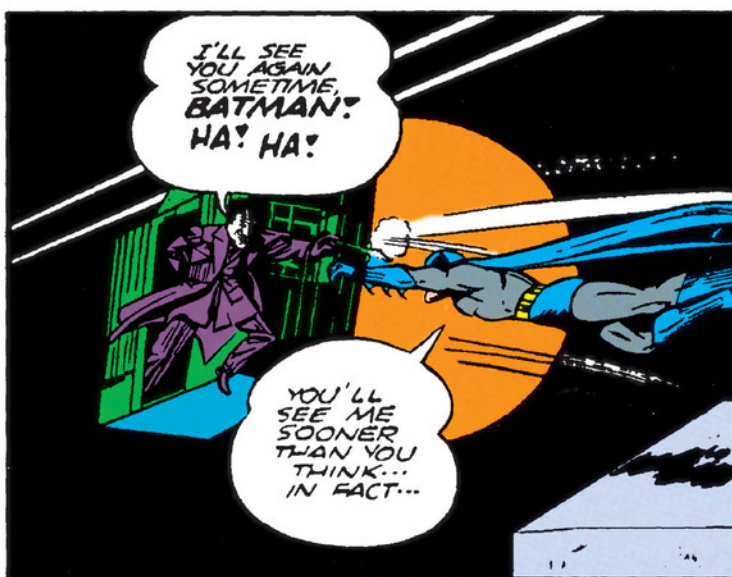












THEN--

WHAT--?
THE CAR'S
MOVING THE
OTHER WAY--
BACK WHERE
IT STARTED?

YOU'LL
DROP
RIGHT
INTO MY
HANDS
NOW, JOKER?

THE ANSWER: ROBIN
HAS RECOVERED FROM
THE GAS AND PULLED
THE SWITCH THAT
WILL SEND THE CAR
BACK--WITH THE JOKER
IN IT?



BUT YOU
FORGET I
KNOW A
TRICK OR
TWO MYSELF..



SEE
YOU
AGAIN?
HA HA?

BEFORE
THE ASTOUNDED
BATMAN AND
ROBIN
CAN RECOVER
FROM THIS
UNEXPECTED
MOVE, THE
JOKER
MAKES
HIS
ESCAPE?

LATER -- THEY FIND
THE THIRD CLUE?

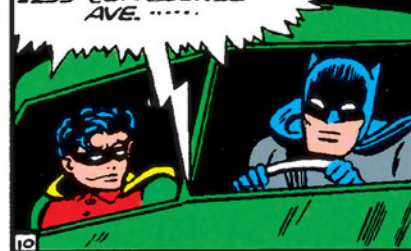
KANSAS, EH? IF
THAT'S THE JOKER'S NEXT
MOVE, IT'S OURS.
TOO?

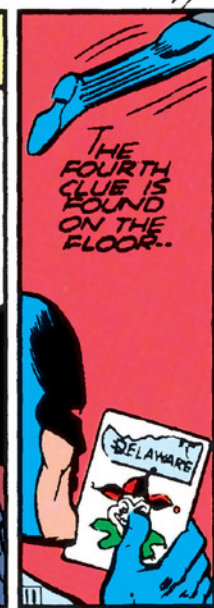
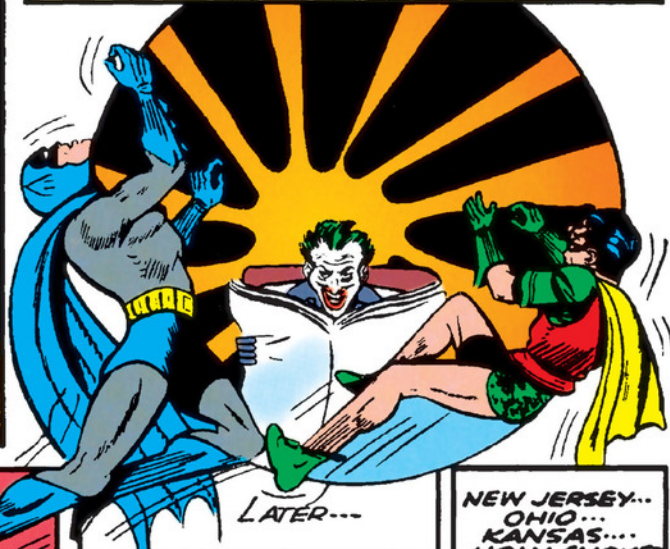
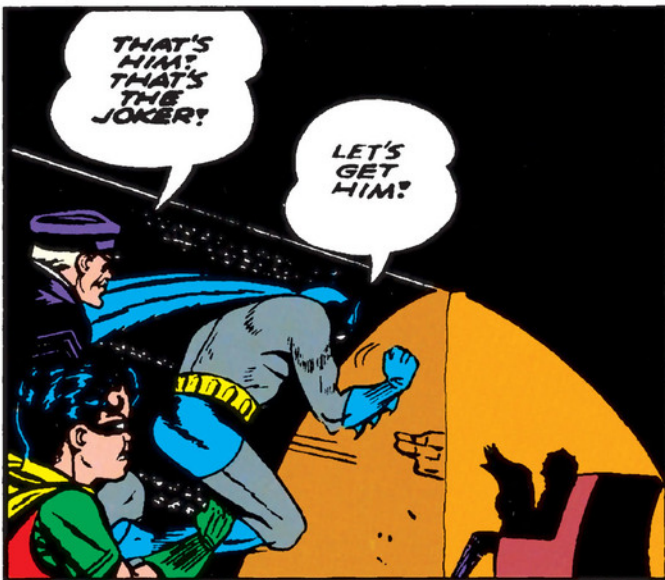
THE BATMOBILE ROCKETS
THRU STATE AFTER STATE
ON THE TRAIL OF THE
ELUSIVE JOKER?



THE BATMAN AND ROBIN
CLING TO THE TRAIL,
WHEN STARTLING WORDS
SNAP THEM UPRIGHT--

CALLING ALL
CARS? THE
JOKER HAS BEEN
SEEN ENTERING A
HOUSE ON
2255 CONCOURSE
AVE.





THE BATMAN WRITES A LIST OF THE CLUES....

LOOK WHAT THE LETTERS OF EACH STATE SPELL OUT AFTER WE CROSS OUT "NEW" AND THE "O" OF DELAWARE!

JERSEY IS "J" ... THEN "O" ... "K" ... "E" ... WHY, THEY START TO SPELL OUT THE JOKER'S NAME...

New Jersey
Ohio
Kansas
Elaware

AND ADD THE "R" OF RHODE ISLAND - JOKER! THAT EGOTISTICAL MANIAC HAS SPELLED HIS NAME ACROSS THE COUNTRY. INSTEAD OF GOING TO DELAWARE AS HE EXPECTS US TO---

I KNOW-- WE'RE GOING TO RHODE ISLAND. WE'LL BE ONE JUMP AHEAD OF HIM--

New Jersey
Ohio
Kansas
Elaware
Rhode islay!

TWO DAYS LATER--

HA! HA! "I. NAMTAB WILL STOP AT THE FRAY HOTEL AT PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND. NAMTAB IT IS RUMORED HAS WITH HIM THE JONKERS DIAMOND, ONE OF THE LARGEST IN THE WORLD..."

PROVIDENCE, EH-- I'LL BE THERE AND AWAY BEFORE THE BATMAN - THE DIAMOND IS MINE!

FRAY HOTEL--- THE JOKER'S KNUCKLES RAP SHARPLY ON I. NAMTAB'S DOOR--

COME IN!

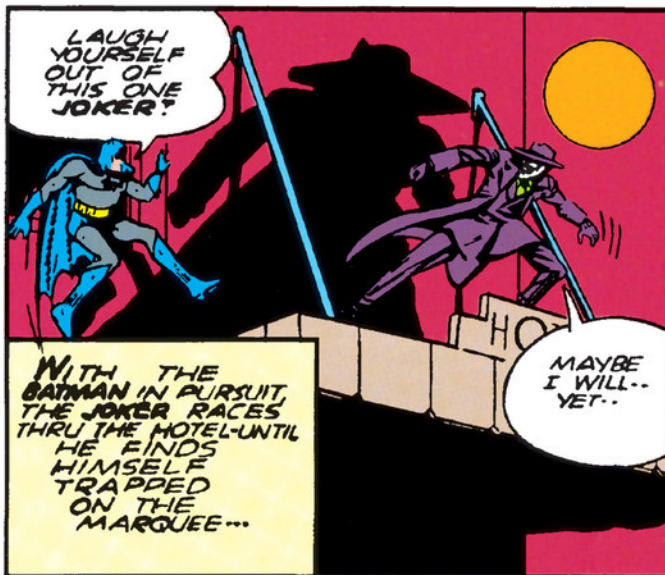
YOU? THE BATMAN?

ALSO I. NAMTAB... BATMAN REVERSED. I KNEW IF I USED A DIAMOND AS BAIT IN THE NEWSPAPER, YOU'D BITE-- AND YOU DID?

I'M NOT CAUGHT YET, BATMAN! NOT YET!

BUT YOU SOON WILL BE BROTHER-- YOU SOON WILL BE!

YOU LITTLE BRAT-- GET OUT OF MY WAY!





No. 59



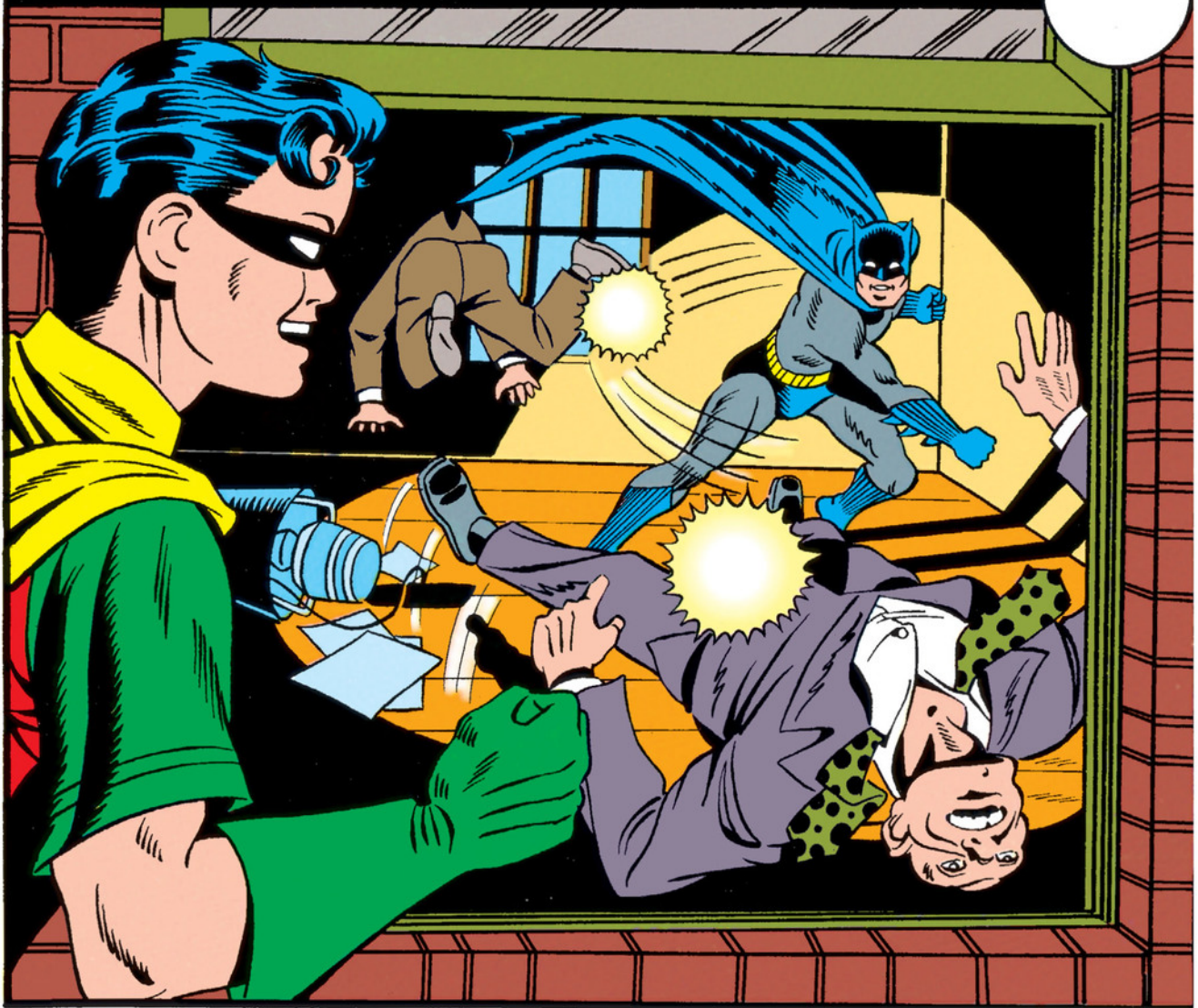
IND

The BATMAN

Detective COMICS

REG. U. S. PAT. OFF.

JAN.



BATMAN

WITH
ROBIN

ONCE AGAIN AN EERIE
SHAPE THROWS LENGTHENING
SHADOWS THAT CUT A
CRIMINAL SWATH ACROSS
A CONTINENT-- THE
PENGUIN HAS RETURNED!

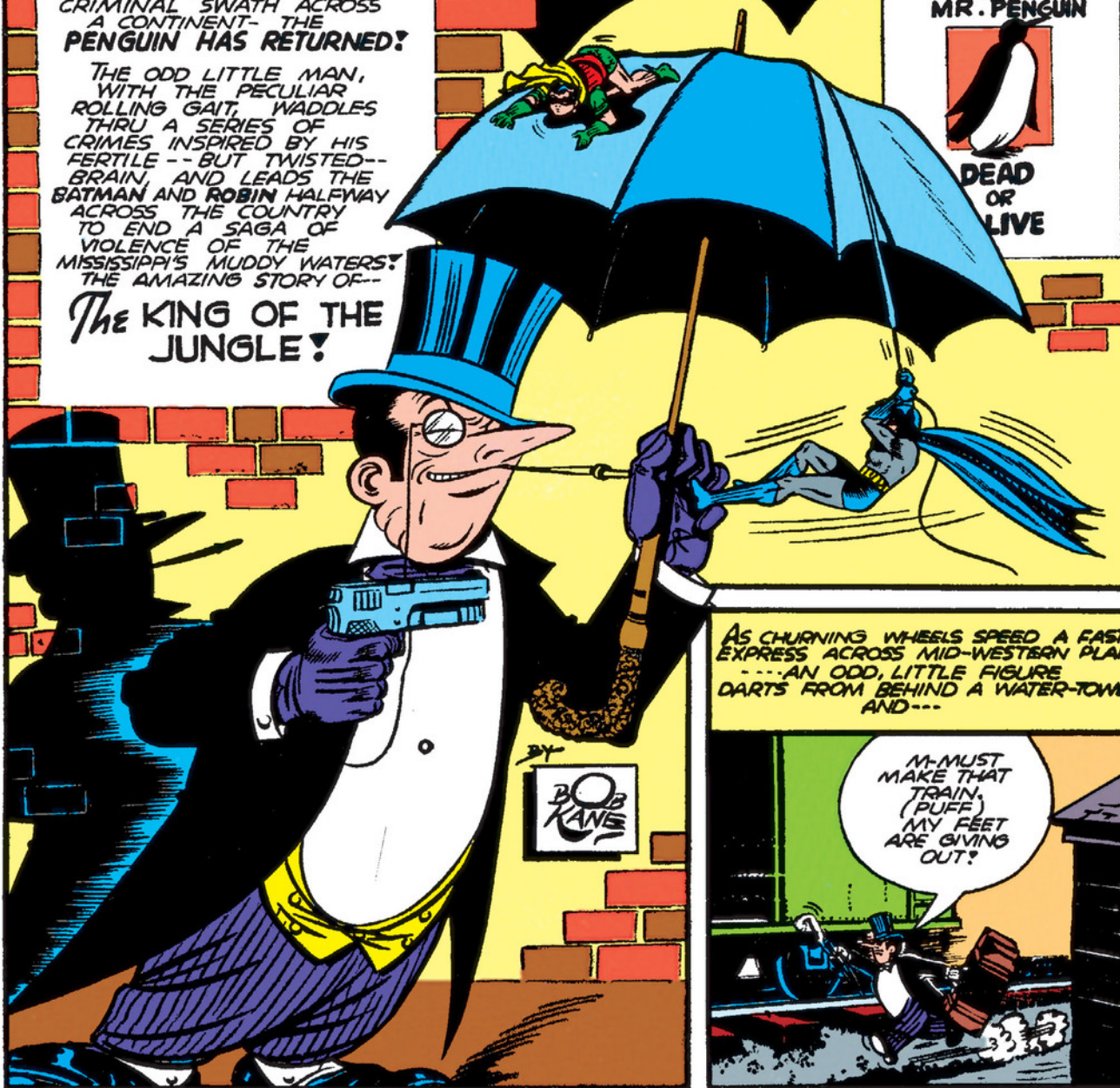
THE ODD LITTLE MAN,
WITH THE PECULIAR
ROLLING GAIT, WADDLES
THRU A SERIES OF
CRIMES INSPIRED BY HIS
FERTILE -- BUT TWISTED--
BRAIN, AND LEADS THE
BATMAN AND ROBIN HALFWAY
ACROSS THE COUNTRY
TO END A SAGA OF
VIOLENCE OF THE
MISSISSIPPI'S MUDDY WATERS!
THE AMAZING STORY OF--

The **KING OF THE
JUNGLE!**

**WANTED
MR. PENGUIN**



**DEAD
OR
LIVE**

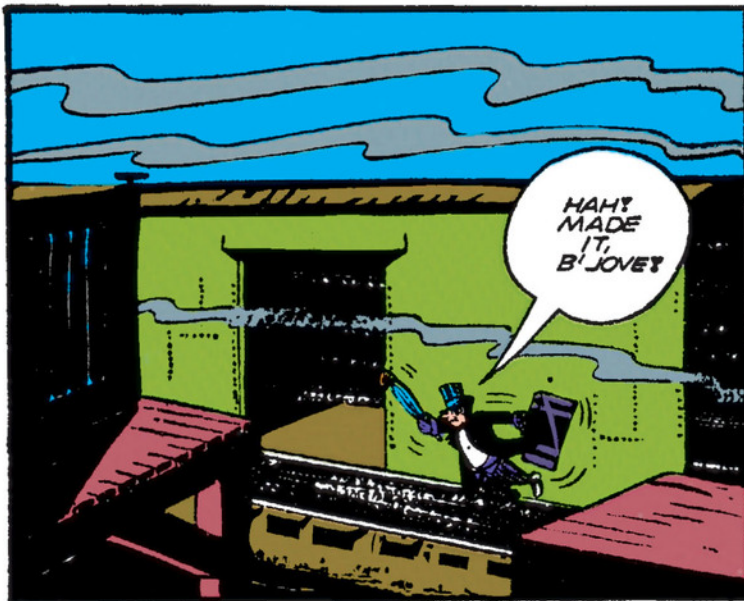


BY
BOB KANE

AS CHURNING WHEELS SPEED A FAST
EXPRESS ACROSS MID-WESTERN PLAINS
----AN ODD, LITTLE FIGURE
DARTS FROM BEHIND A WATER-TOWER
AND---

M-MUST
MAKE THAT
TRAIN,
(PUFF)
MY FEET
ARE GIVING
OUT!





HAH! MADE IT, B'JOVE!

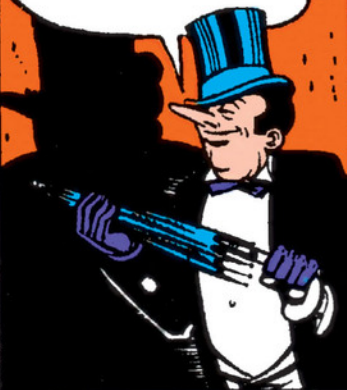
SURPRISINGLY NIMBLE, IN SPITE OF HIS FAT, THE ODD LITTLE MAN SWINGS HIMSELF INTO THE BOX CAR--

WELL--WELL-- AND I THOUGHT THESE WERE PRIVATE ACCOMMODATIONS?

SMART EH? WHAT'S YOUR MONIKER, FATTY?



NAME CALLING ISN'T NICE! SUPPOSE I TELL YOU YOUR--ER MONIKERS! YOU'RE LEFTY LARRY, WANTED FOR MURDER? AND YOU'RE MIKE THE TRAMP, WANTED FOR ARSON AND--



I'LL TEAR 'IM APART-- YEEOW!

TSK TSK! I'M SORRY-- BUT REALLY I DON'T WANT TO BE TORN APART--



SAY-- WHO ARE YOU ANYWAY?

PERMIT ME--I AM THE PENGUIN!



TH--THE PENGUIN! HE'S A REAL BIG SHOT!

OH, YEAH? WHADDABOUT ME? AIN'T THERE A TEN GRAND REWARD OUT FOR ME?



TEN GRAND? HUH? THAT'S CHICKENFEED! WHY, THE COPS WILL GIVE FIFTEEN GRAND FOR ME!

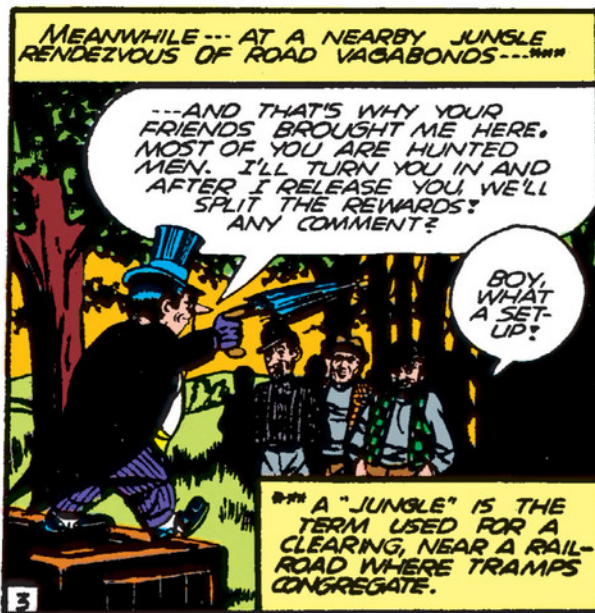
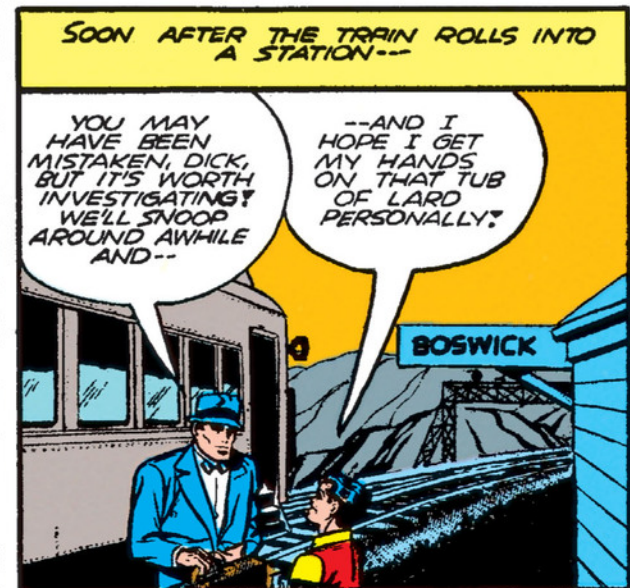
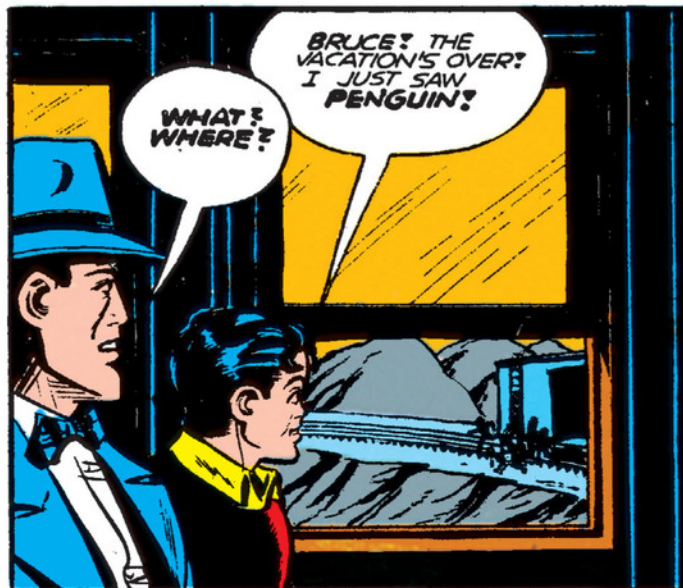
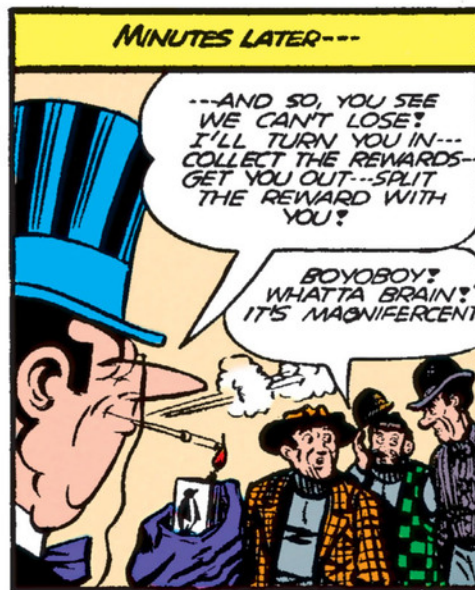
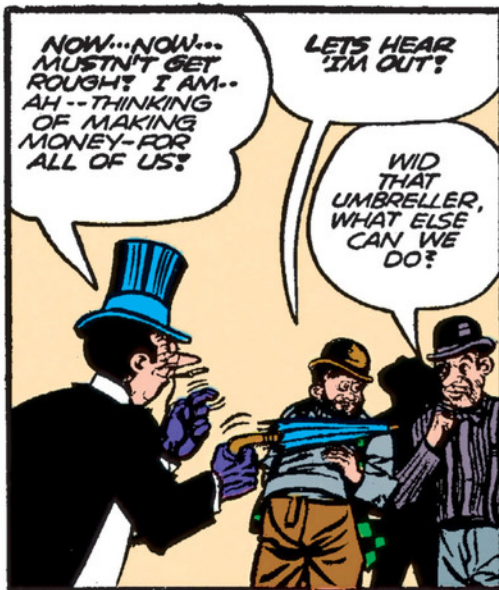
I GOT YA BOTH BEAT-- LEMME TELL YOU--

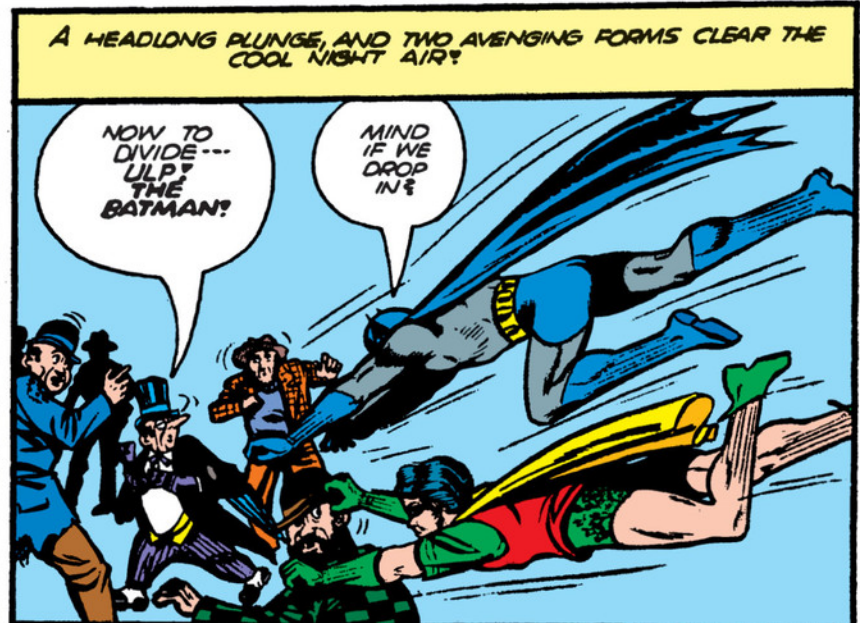
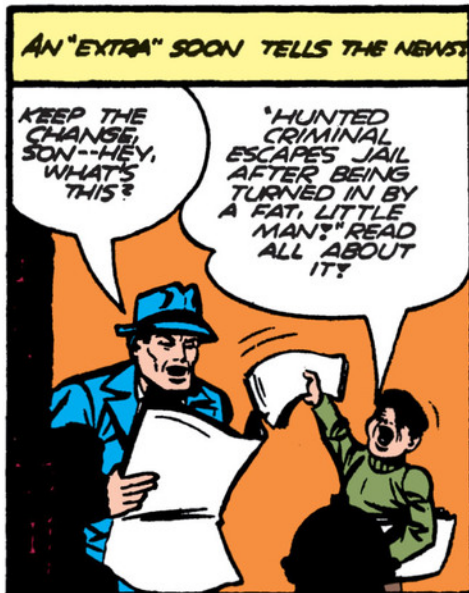


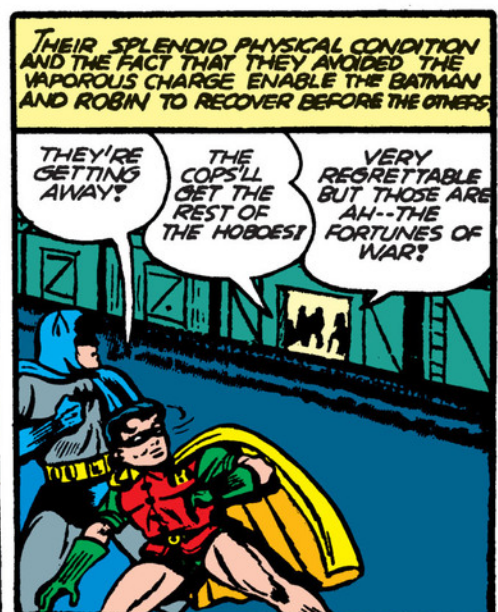
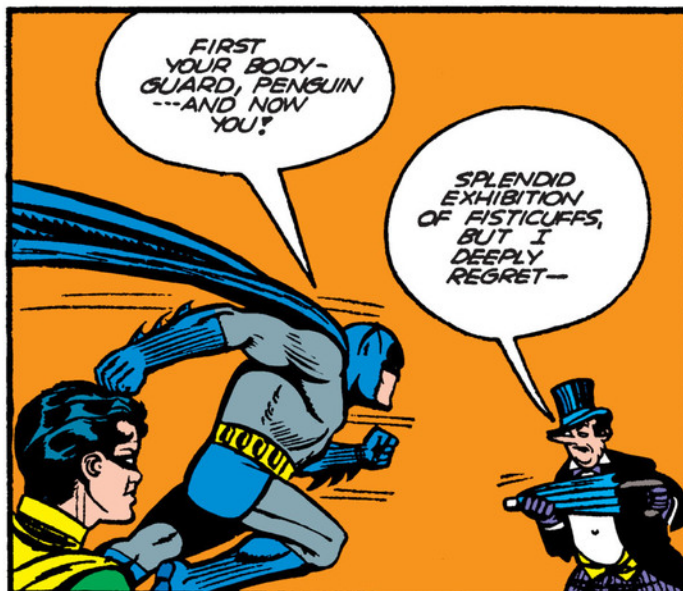
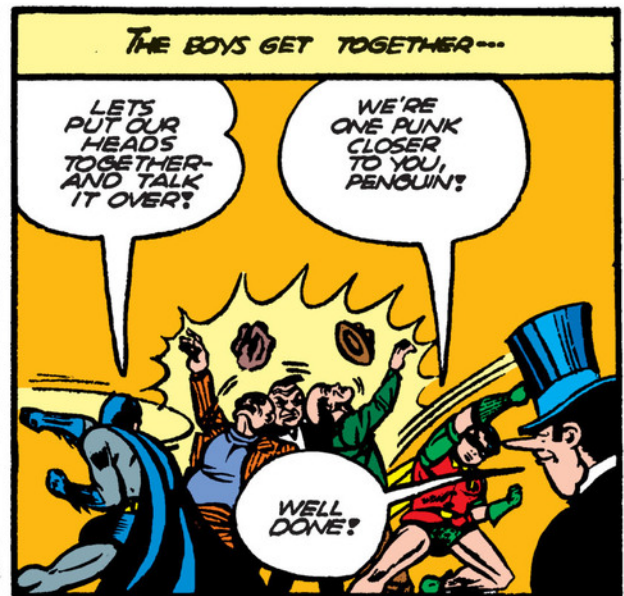
HMMM-- WHOEVER TURNED YOU LADS IN TO THE AUTHORITIES WOULD REALIZE A NICE PIECE OF--ER-- CHANGE!

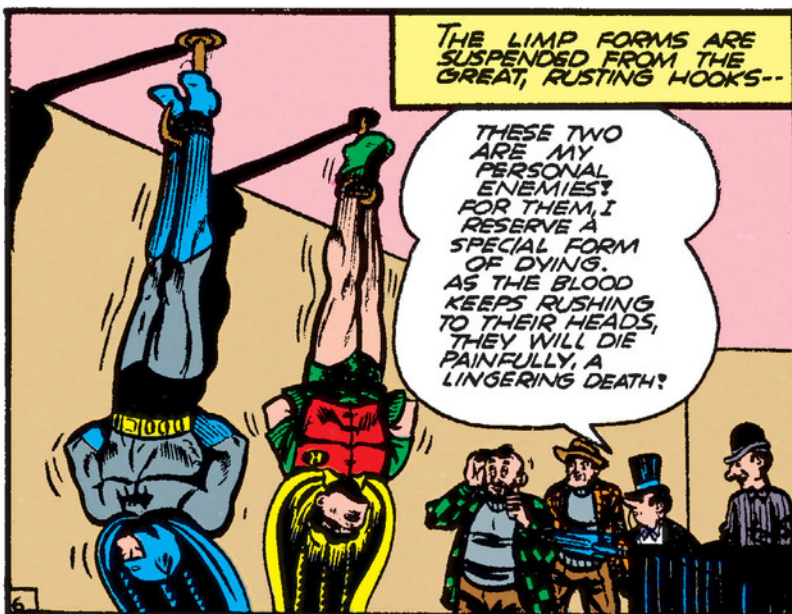
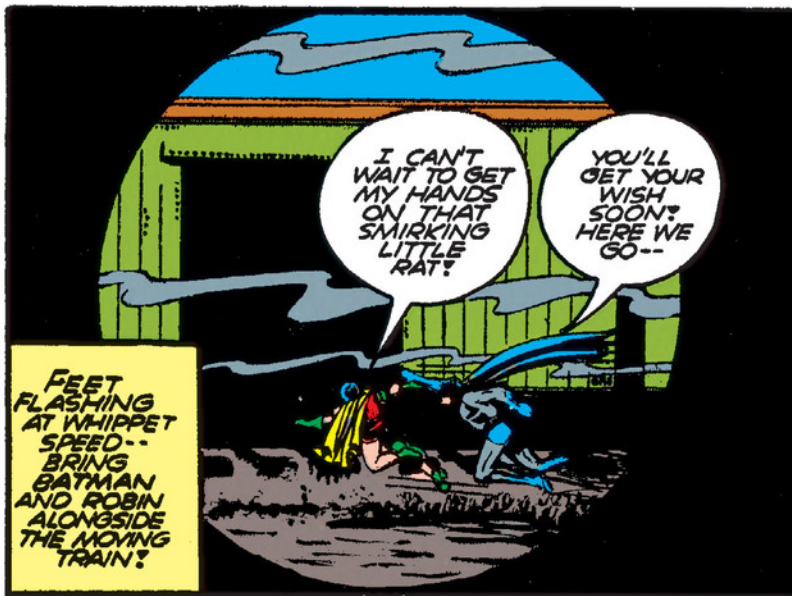
JUSSA MINUTE, PENGUIN! YOU AIN'T GONNA--



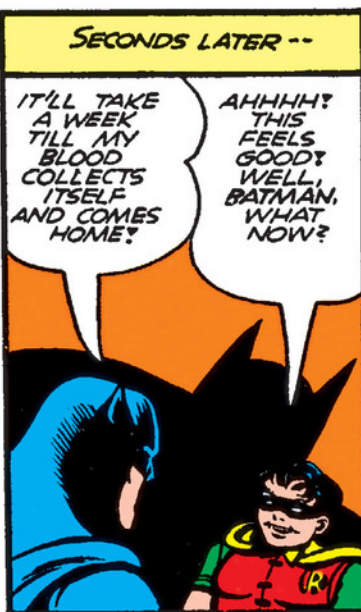
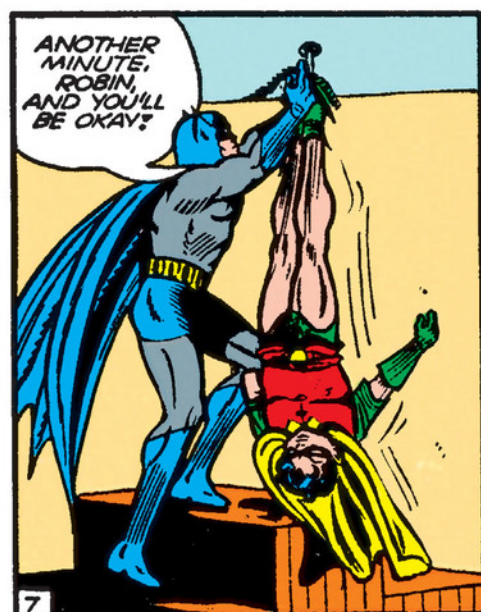
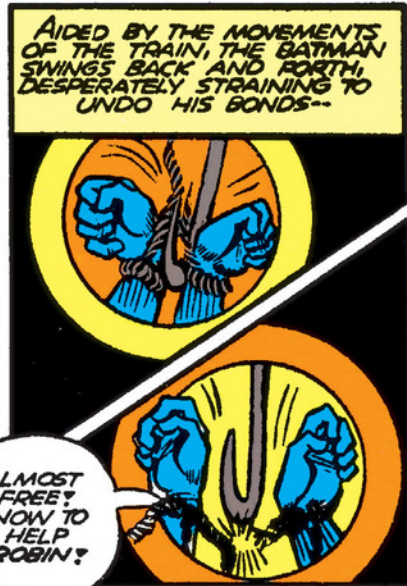
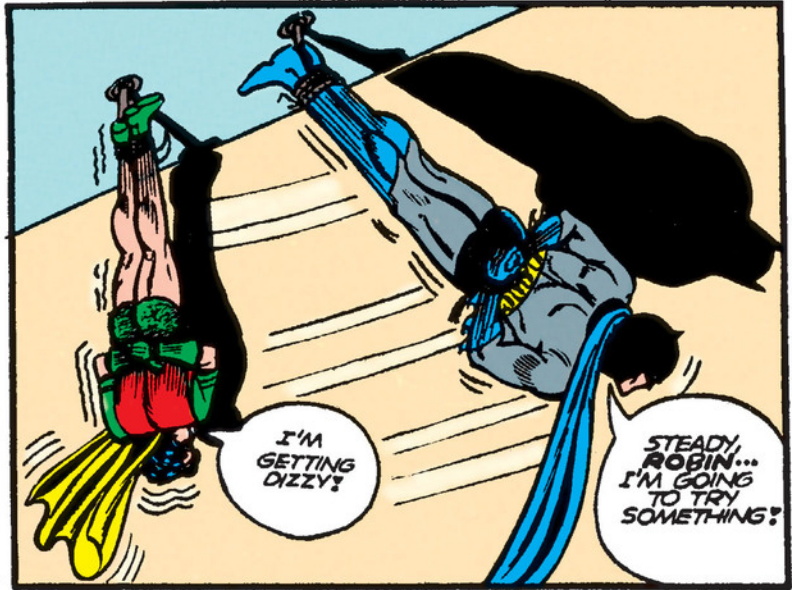
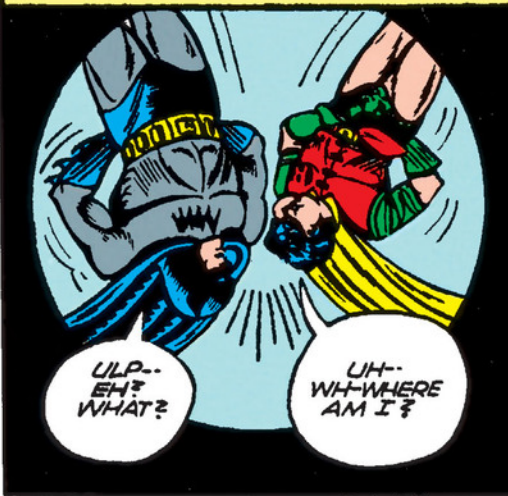


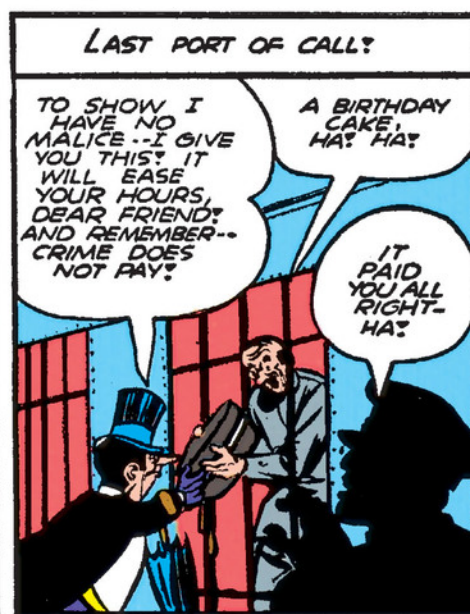




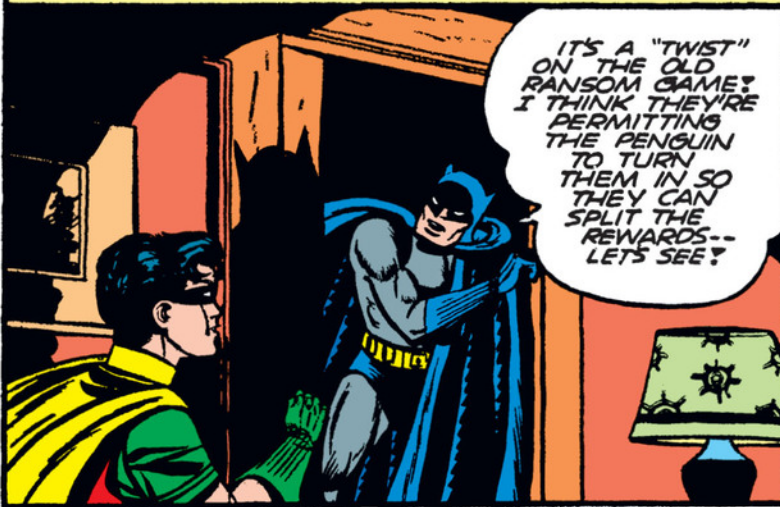


SOON AFTER, AS THE TRAIN LURCHES AROUND A BEND, TWO SWINGING BODIES COLLIDE?



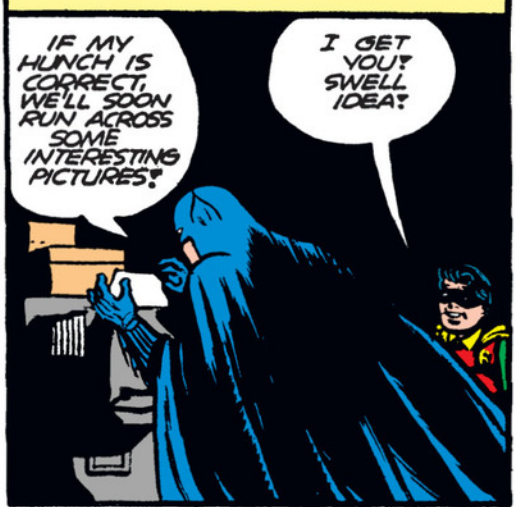


AT THAT MOMENT--BATMAN PRESSES A HIDDEN BUTTON IN HIS HOME---



IT'S A "TWIST" ON THE OLD RANSOM GAME? I THINK THEY'RE PERMITTING THE PENGUIN TO TURN THEM IN SO THEY CAN SPLIT THE REWARDS-- LETS SEE?

INSIDE HIS SECRET LABORATORY, THE BATMAN LOOKS AT HIS PERSONAL ROGUE'S GALLERY?



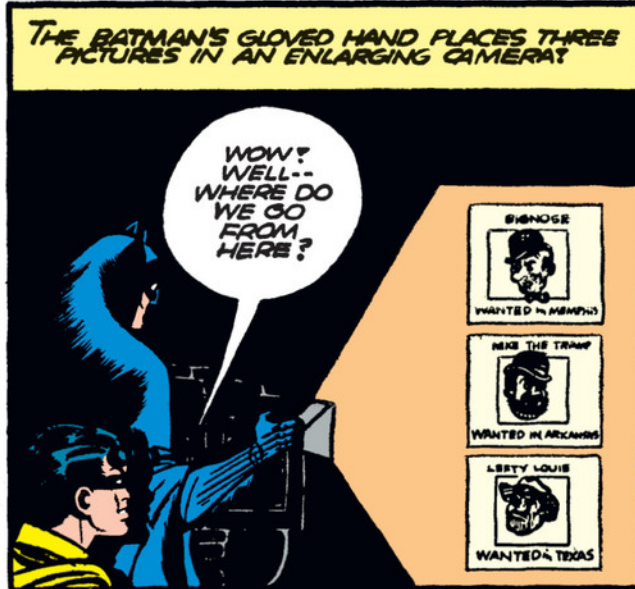
IF MY HUNCH IS CORRECT, WE'LL SOON RUN ACROSS SOME INTERESTING PICTURES?

I GET YOU? SWELL IDEA?

JUST AS I THOUGHT? HERE'S THE STORY, ROBIN?



THE BATMAN'S GLOVED HAND PLACES THREE PICTURES IN AN ENLARGING CAMERA?



WOW? WELL-- WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?



LATER--

IT'S DRIVING ME CRAZY? MEMPHIS, ARKANSAS, TEXAS? WHERE WILL THEY STRIKE NEXT?

I'LL GET SOME MUSIC-- MAYBE IT'LL CLEAR OUR HEADS.



WE NOW BRING YOU A SPEECH BY---

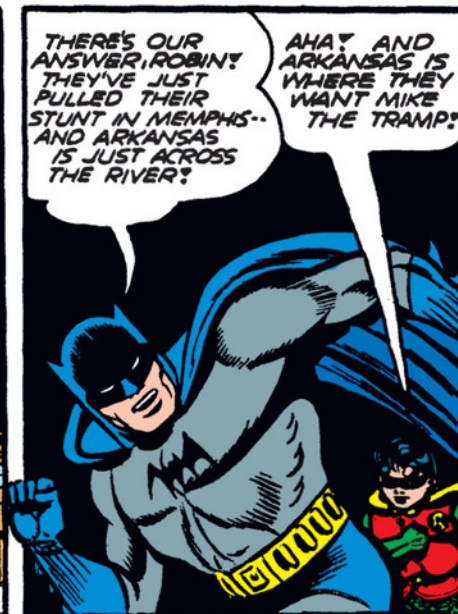
--NEWS FLASH? BIGNOSE MURPHY, THE KILLER WHO WAS CAPTURED IN MEMPHIS EARLY THIS MORNING SAWED THROUGH HIS CELL BARS AND ESCAPED? ...

LISTEN?



THERE'S OUR ANSWER, ROBIN? THEY'VE JUST PULLED THEIR STUNT IN MEMPHIS-- AND ARKANSAS IS JUST ACROSS THE RIVER?

AHA? AND ARKANSAS IS WHERE THEY WANT MIKE THE TRAMP?

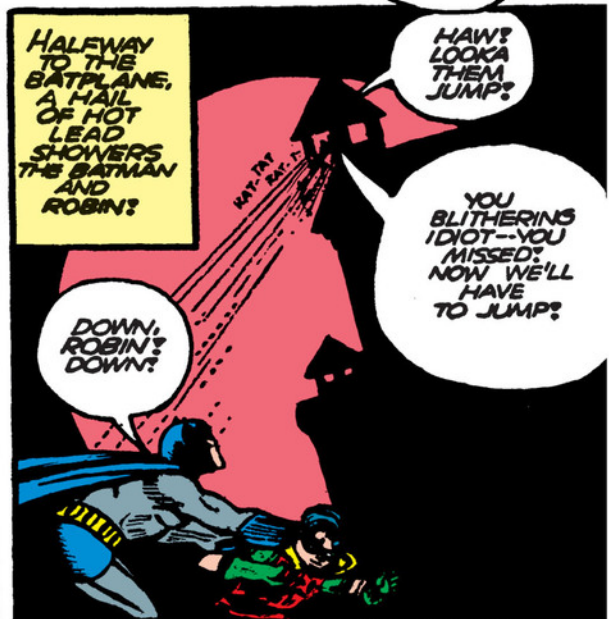
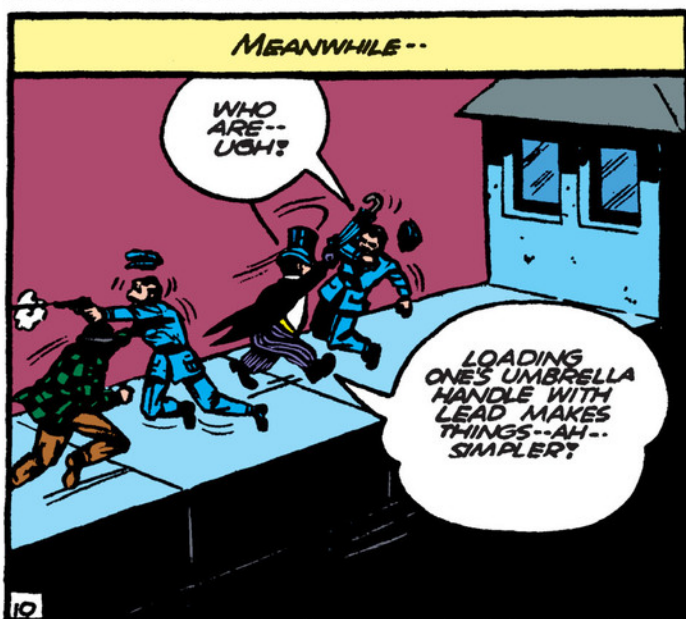
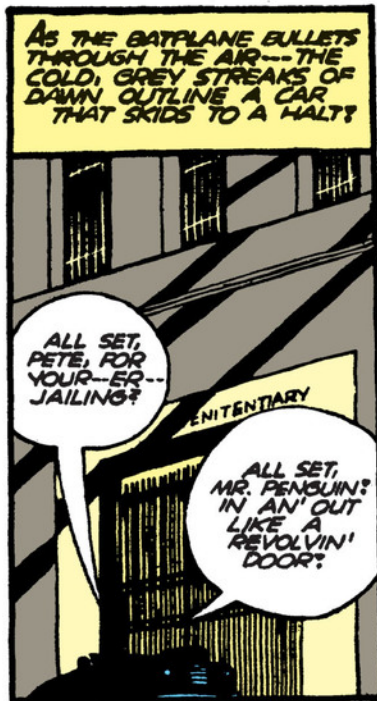


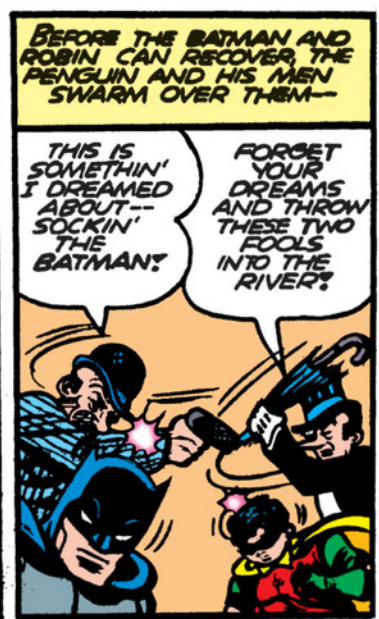
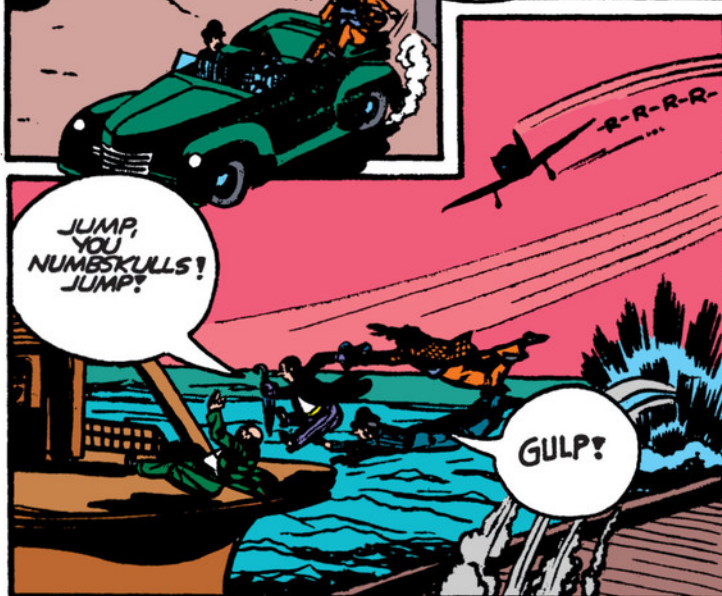
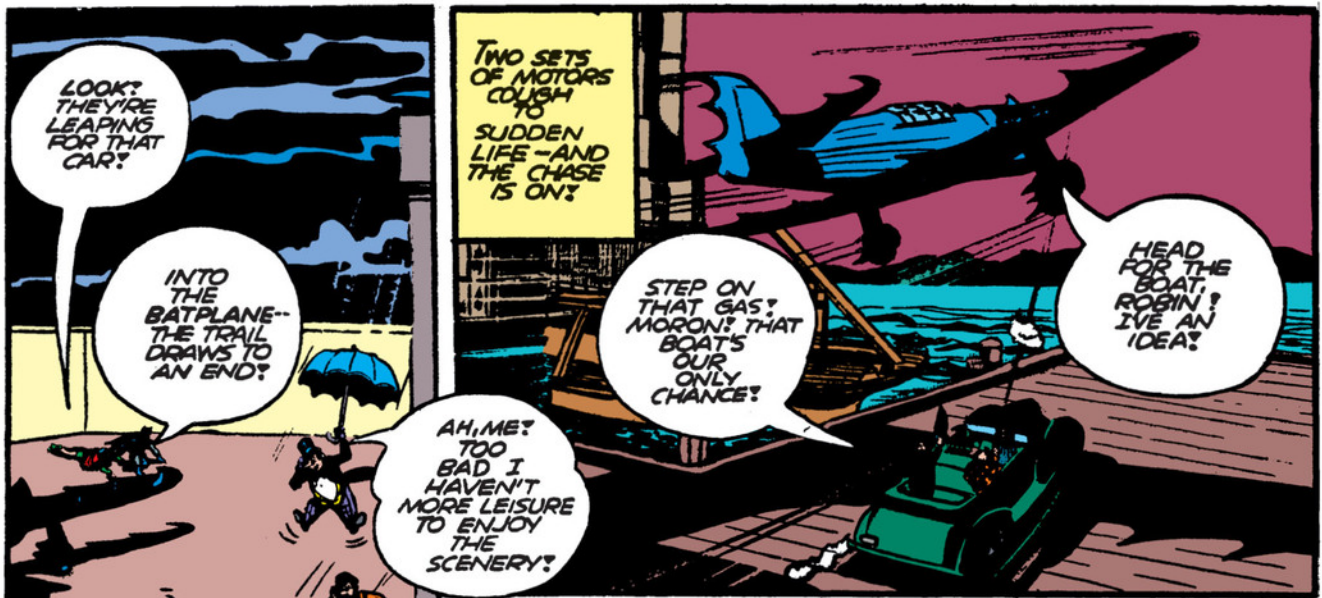
CORRECT, ROBIN, AND THAT'S WHERE WE'RE GOING TO MAKE SURE THAT ONCE THEY GET MIKE THE TRAMP THEY KEEP HIM?

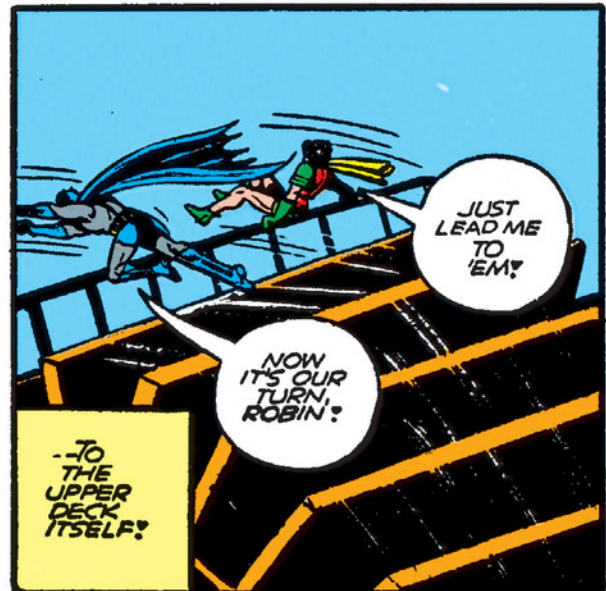
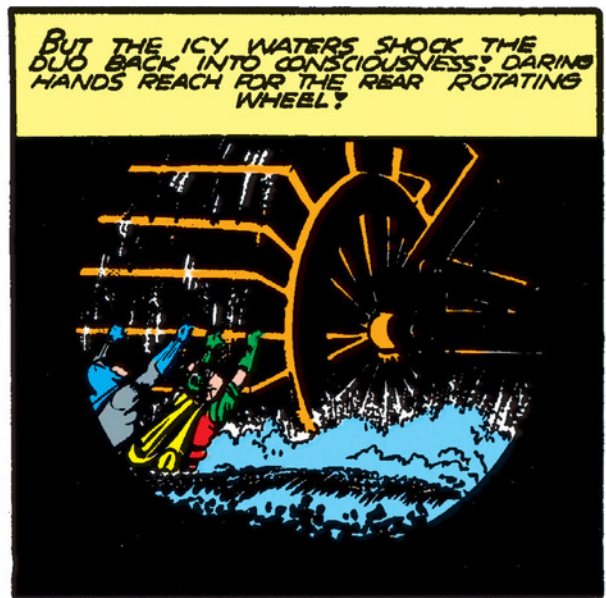
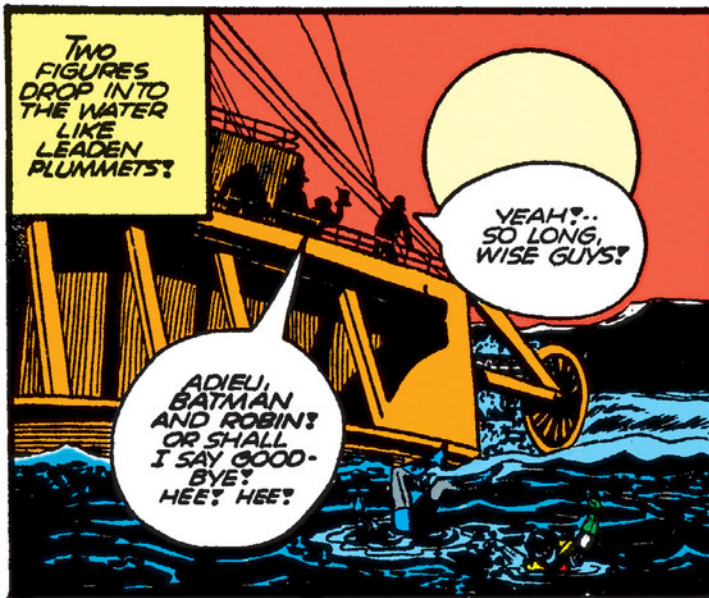
THEY'LL KEEP HIM, ALL RIGHT? NOT TO MENTION A COUPLE OF OTHERS-- EH, BATMAN?



MINUTES LATER--THE BATPLANE WINGS WESTWARD THROUGH THE NIGHT LIKE A GIANT FABLE BIRD?







A GLEAMING, NEEDLE-POINTED BLADE SWINGS A VICIOUS DEATH-DEALING ARC!

PARDON ME WHILE I DECAPITATE YOU--OOUFF?



PARDON THE PUN, BUT I'M SORT OF ATTACHED TO MY HEAD? AH? THAT MOP?



CURSE YOUR SLITHERING FORM! CAN'T YOU STAY STILL?

RIGHT WITH YOU, PENGUIN OLD BOY?



HAVE AT YOU, KNAVE--OH OH--THIS IS SERIOUS?

THE HOT BREATH OF DOOM IS AT YOUR THROAT, BATMAN?



THE BATMAN'S HANDS QUICKLY REVERSE THE MOP AND--

HOT BREATH, EH? THIS MOP WILL CLEAN AWAY SOME OF YOUR HOT AIR?

I WILL-- --ULP-- SPLUTTER--



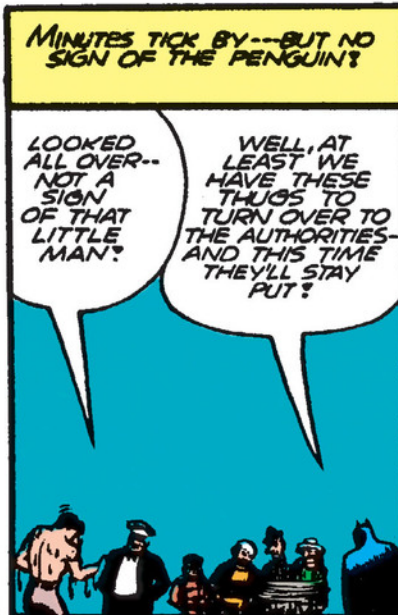
BUT THOUGH JESTING WORDS FILL THE AIR, GRIM DEATH HOVERS CEASELESSLY ABOUT?

YOU MISSED, BIRDMAN?



--BUT I WON'T?

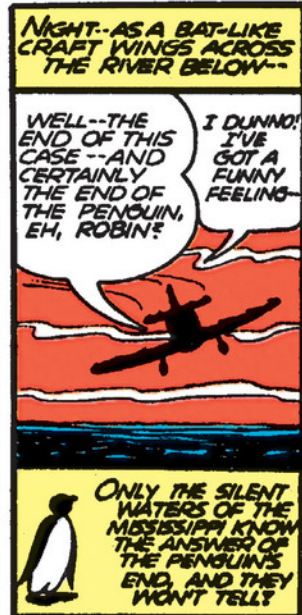
I KNOW WHEN I'M BEATEN, BATMAN, AND SINCE I CAN'T MATCH YOUR FISTICUFFS, THIS IS THE ONLY SOLUTION?



MINUTES TICK BY--BUT NO SIGN OF THE PENGUIN?

LOOKED ALL OVER-- NOT A SIGN OF THAT LITTLE MAN?

WELL, AT LEAST WE HAVE THESE THUGS TO TURN OVER TO THE AUTHORITIES-- AND THIS TIME THEY'LL STAY PUT?



NIGHT--AS A BAT-LIKE CRAFT WINGS ACROSS THE RIVER BELOW--

WELL--THE END OF THIS CASE--AND CERTAINLY THE END OF THE PENGUIN, EH, ROBIN?

I DUNNO! I'VE GOT A FUNNY FEELING--

ONLY THE SILENT WATERS OF THE MISSISSIPPI KNOW THE ANSWER OF THE PENGUIN'S END, AND THEY WON'T TELL?

No. 4

WINTER ISSUE

WORLD'S FINEST COMICS



96
THRILLING
PAGES!



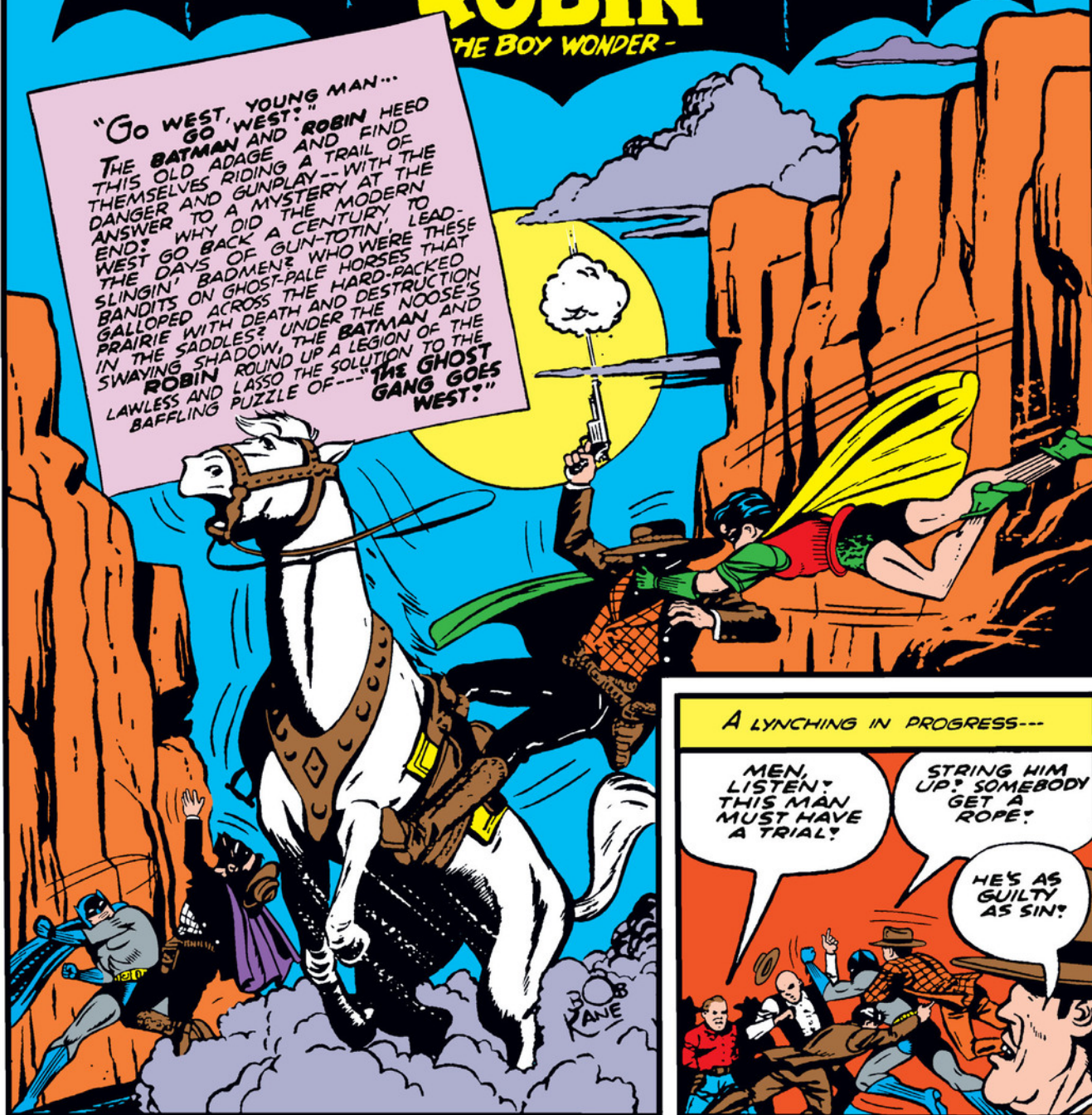
**SUPERMAN
BATMAN
AND
ROBIN**

**ZATARA
SANDMAN
RED, WHITE & BLUE**

BATMAN

WITH
ROBIN
THE BOY WONDER -

"GO WEST, YOUNG MAN...
GO WEST, WEST!"
THE BATMAN AND ROBIN HEED
THIS OLD ADAGE AND FIND
THEMSELVES RIDING A TRAIL OF
DANGER AND GUNPLAY--WITH THE
ANSWER TO A MYSTERY AT THE
END! WHY DID THE MODERN
WEST GO BACK A CENTURY TO
THE DAYS OF GUN-TOTIN' LEAD-
SLINGIN' BADMEN? WHO WERE THESE
BANDITS ON GHOST-PALE HORSES THAT
GALLOPED ACROSS THE HARD-PAKED
PRAIRIE WITH DEATH AND DESTRUCTION
IN THE SADDLES? UNDER THE NOOSE'S
SWAYING SHADOW, THE BATMAN AND
ROBIN ROUND UP A LEGION OF THE
LAWLESS AND LASSO THE SOLUTION TO THE
BAFFLING PUZZLE OF---**THE GHOST
GANG GOES
WEST!"**



A LYNCHING IN PROGRESS---

MEN,
LISTEN!
THIS MAN
MUST HAVE
A TRIAL!

STRING HIM
UP! SOMEBODY
GET A
ROPE!

HE'S AS
GUILTY
AS SIN!



AN ANGRY CROWD PUSHES A SOLITARY FIGURE BEFORE IT--CAN IT BE?...IT IS--THE BATMAN!

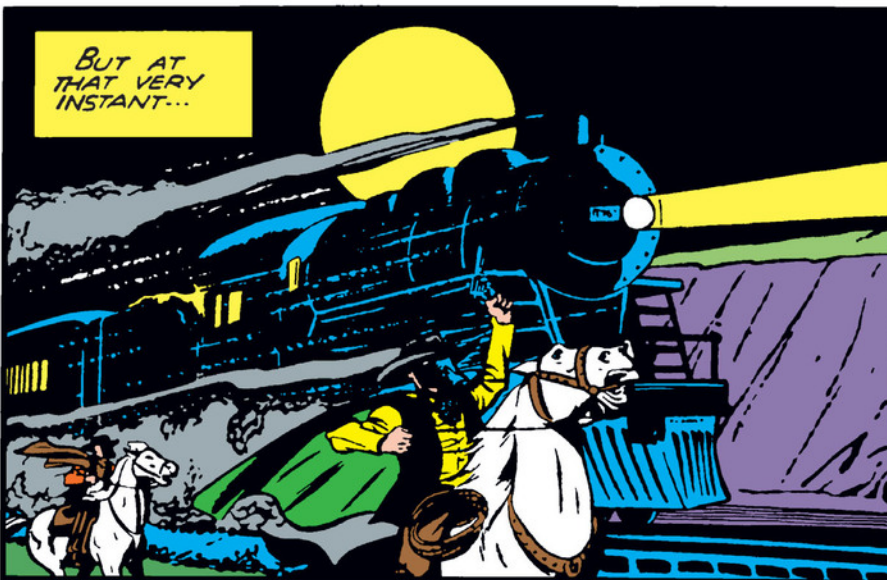


The
BATMAN
ABOUT
TO BE
LYNCHED?
WHY?
FOR THE
ANSWER,
WE MUST
TURN BACK
THE
CLOCK
A FEW
HOURS--
AND GO
TO A
SPEEDING
TRAIN?

ON THIS TRAIN ARE BRUCE WAYNE AND HIS YOUNG WARD, DICK GRAYSON, HOLIDAY-BOUND.



BUT AT
THAT VERY
INSTANT--



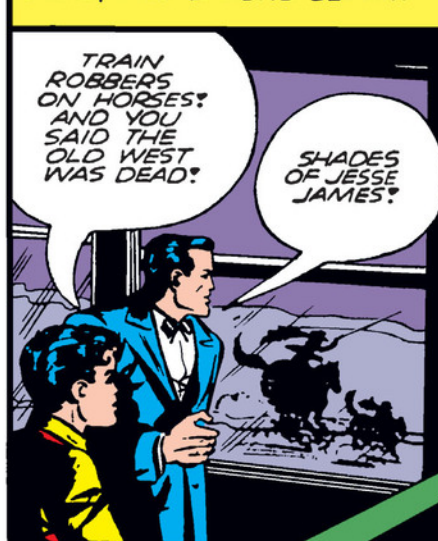
PUT UP
YOUR HANDS?
THIS IS
A
HOLDUP?



HELPLESS TO INTERFERE, FOR FEAR INNOCENT PEOPLE MIGHT BE SHOT, BRUCE AND DICK WATCH, BODIES TAUT?



THEN-- AS SWIFTLY AS THEY CAME, THE BANDITS DEPART--



UPON QUESTIONING THE CONDUCTOR, BRUCE FINDS--



TEN MINUTES LATER---

JUST HAD A REPORT: THE GHOST GANG RAIDED A BANK 200 MILES FROM HERE! AND IT'S BEEN ONLY A FEW MINUTES SINCE THEY LEFT!

HOLY SMOKE? YOU'RE RIGHT! THAT'S FAST-- TOO FAST! NOT EVEN RACE HORSES CAN RUN LIKE THAT!

AND SOME TIME LATER, THE CRACK EXPRESS STOPS AT A WESTERN TOWN--

WELL-- WE'RE HERE!

YES--I'D BETTER FIND US A HOTEL FOR THE NIGHT!

SUDDENLY---

THE GHOST GANG? THEY'RE ROBBING THE BANK?

THE GHOST GANG? BUT--ONLY A FEW MINUTES AGO THEY WERE A COUPLE OF HUNDRED MILES FROM HERE--HOW?

IN A DESERTED SHACK---

C'MON--WE'RE GOING TO TACKLE THAT GANG AND SEE JUST HOW GHOSTLY THEY ARE!

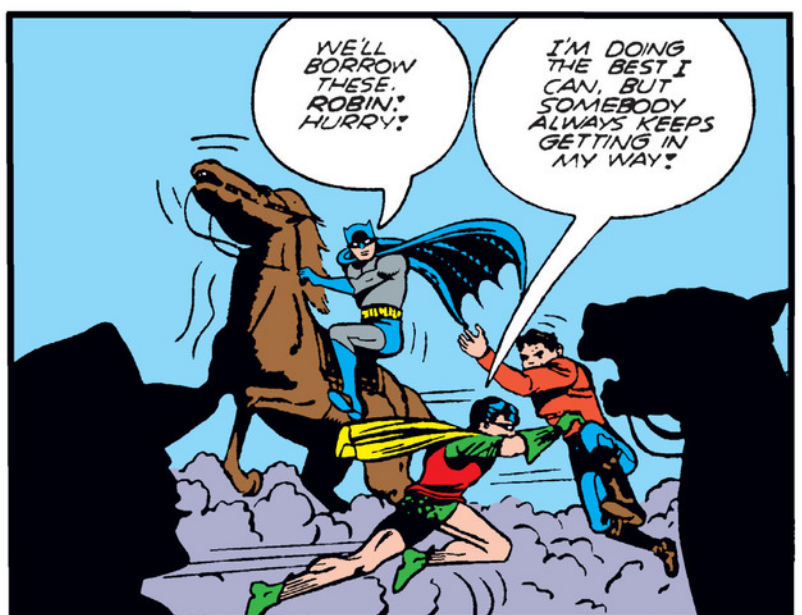
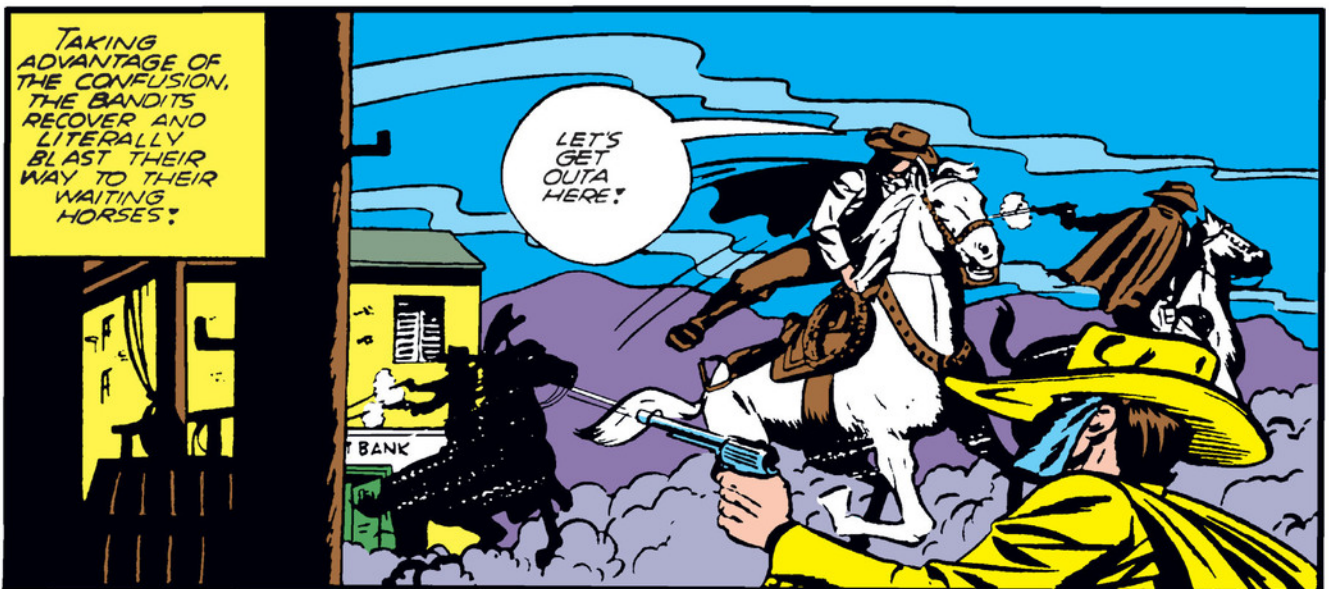
DON'T SAY IT. LIKE THAT! IT SOUNDS A LITTLE-- SPOOKY!

THERE THEY ARE-- C'MON, ROBIN!

AND SO, FLASHING IN THE MIDST OF THE BANDITS COME THOSE TWO TROUBLE-SHOOTERS OF CRIME ---BATMAN AND ROBIN---

MINE DOESN'T FEEL LIKE A GHOST. HOW ABOUT YOURS, ROBIN?

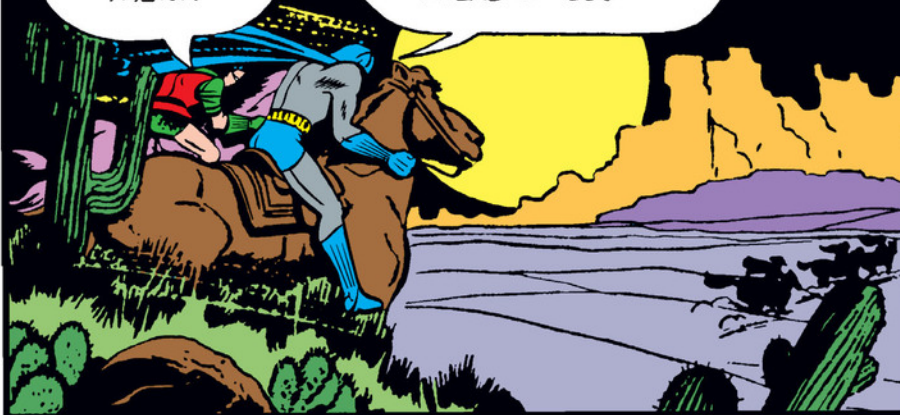
SEEMS TO HAVE A PRETTY SOLID JAW FOR A SPOOK!



GREAT CLOAKS WHIPPING OUT BEHIND THEM, THE BATMAN AND ROBIN THUNDER AFTER THE FLEEING BANDITS!

THINK WE'LL BE ABLE TO CATCH THEM?

I DON'T KNOW! THEY'VE GOT FAST HORSES AND THEY'RE YARDS AHEAD OF US!



THEIR HORSES' HOOVES RAPIDLY EATING UP THE DISTANCE, THE BATMAN AND ROBIN ROUND A MOUNTAIN TRAIL TO FIND---

THEY'RE GONE! THE BANDITS ARE GONE!

BUT WE WERE RIGHT BEHIND THEM! THERE'S NO PLACE TO HIDE HERE-- DON'T TELL ME THEY REALLY ARE GHOSTS!



LISTEN! HOOF BEATS AND VOICES! THAT WOULD BE OUR IRATE CITIZENS FROM THE TOWN! THEY'RE AFTER US!

BUT ALL YOU'VE GOT TO DO IS TELL WHO YOU ARE!

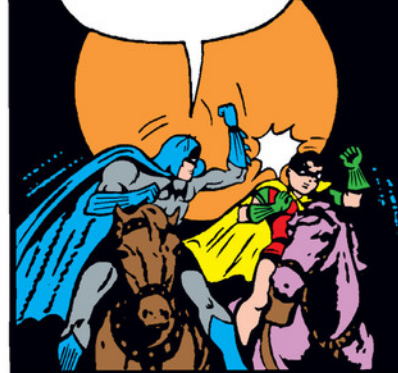


IF I KNOW THEM, THEY'RE TOO HOT-HEADED AT THE MOMENT FOR COOL LOGIC! ROBIN----- YOU HIDE WHILE I HANDLE THEM!

NOT ME! IF YOU'RE IN DANGER I WANT TO BE IN ON IT WITH YOU. I'M YOUR PAL!



SORRY, ROBIN-- BUT THIS IS ONE FIGHT I WANT YOU OUT OF!



HIDING ROBIN BEHIND A LARGE BOULDER, BATMAN TURNS TO FACE THE ANGRY TOWNSPEOPLE!

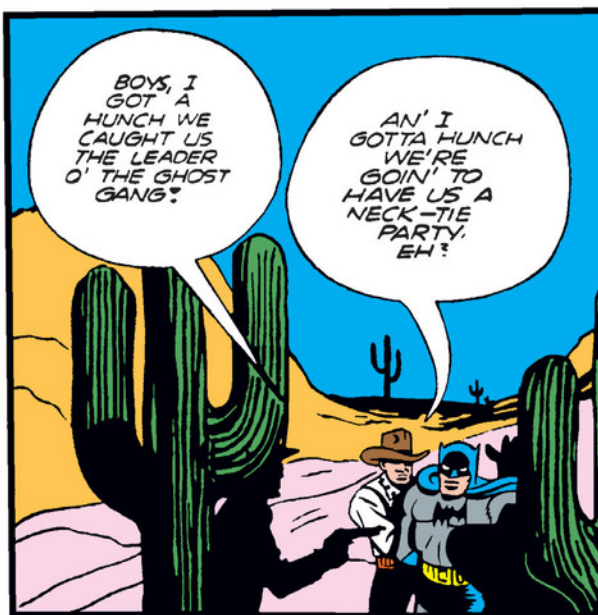
LOOK! HE'S DRESSED IN A DIFFERENT COSTUME THAN THE OTHERS!

THERE'S ONE WHO DIDN'T GET AWAY!



BOYS, I GOT A HUNCH WE CAUGHT US THE LEADER O' THE GHOST GANG!

AN' I GOTTA HUNCH WE'RE GOIN' TO HAVE US A NECK-TIE PARTY, EH?



AND NOW THAT WE KNOW THE FACTS, LET US GO BACK TO THAT LYNCHING--OF THE **BATMAN**!

--AN' WE DON'T WANNA HEAR WHO YOU ARE, LIKE YOU BIN' TRYIN' TO TELL US! WE'RE STRINGIN' YOU UP!

WELL, LOOK-- I'D LIKE TO ASK A FAVOR OF YOU---

...WILL YOU BRING ME A GLASS OF WATER... AND PROMISE NOT TO HANG ME UNTIL I FINISH DRINKING THE WATER IN THAT GLASS?

WAAL--I GUESS THERE'S NO HARM IN THET. I PROMISE!

THE GLASS OF WATER IS BROUGHT TO THE **BATMAN**'S LIPS, WHEN SUDDENLY--

HEY! WHAT'S THE IDEA?

THE SOFT EARTH SUCKS UP THE WATER!

I'D NEVER BE ABLE TO DRINK THAT WATER ANY MORE-- AND YOU PROMISED YOU WOULDN'T HANG ME UNTIL I DID!

HAW! HAW! SHORE PUT ONE OVER ON YOU, CAL! HAW! HAW!

WAAL, I'LL BE A RING-TAILED GALOOT!

THE LITTLE PSYCHOLOGICAL TRICK CLEARS THE BLINDING RAGE FROM THE CROWD'S MINDS---

LISTEN! LOOK CLOSELY AND CAREFULLY AT MY COSTUME! WHAT DOES IT RESEMBLE?

SORTA LIKE WINGS!

YEAH-- LIKE BAT-WINGS!

EXACTLY! I'M THE **BATMAN**!

SHORE, THET'S HIM ALL RIGHT! ... AND TO THINK WE ALMOST STRUNG UP THE **BATMAN**!

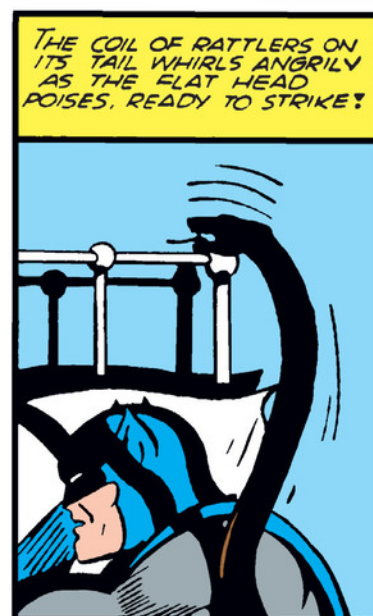
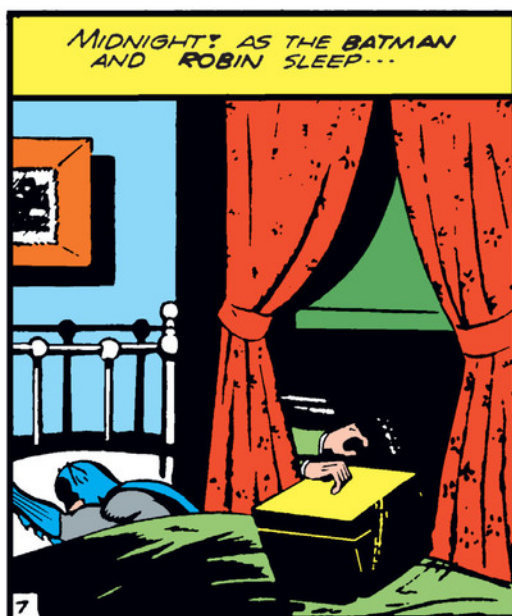
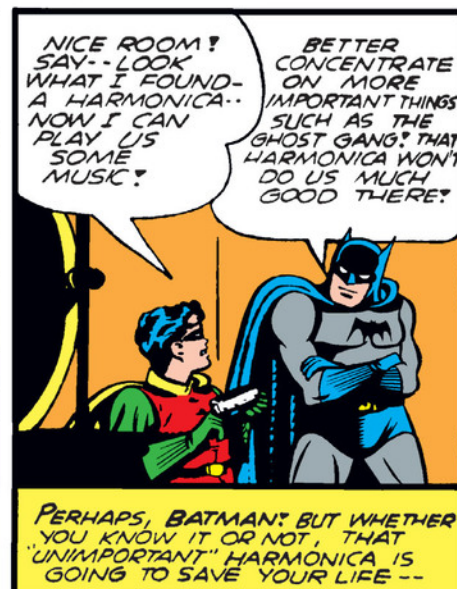
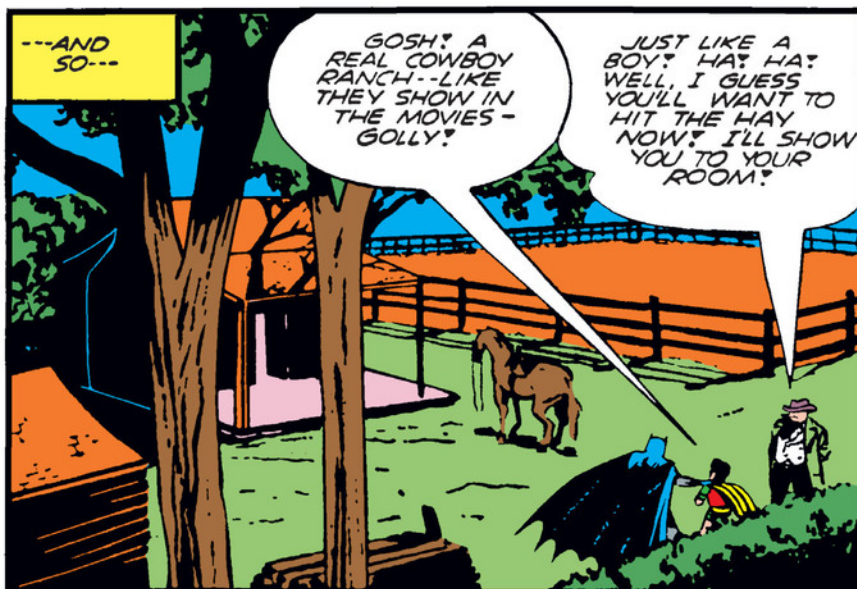
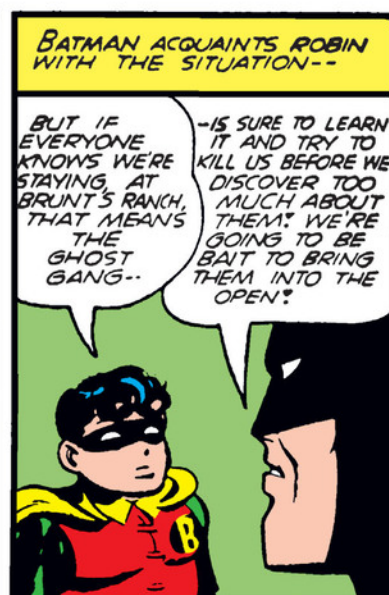
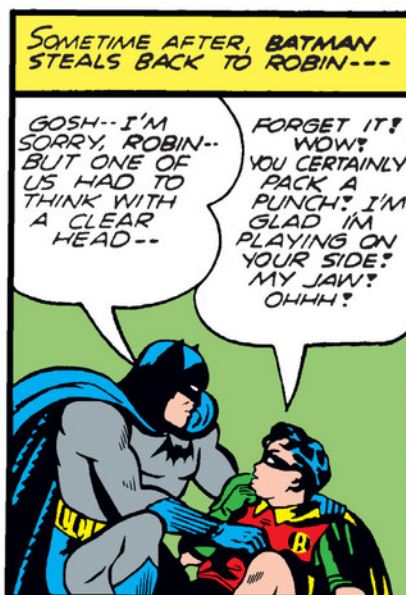
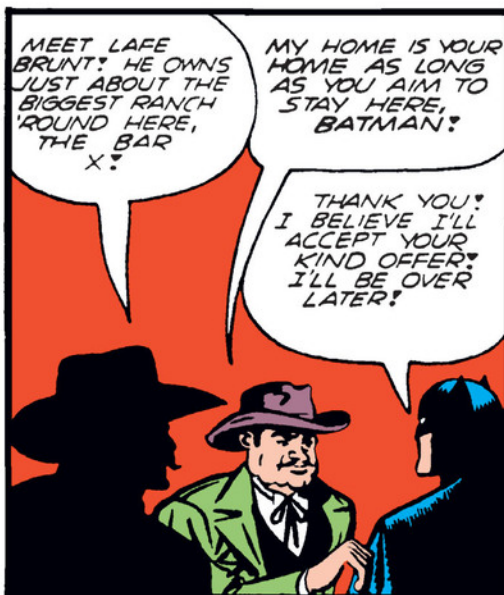
THE **BATMAN** IS FREED OF HIS BONDS---

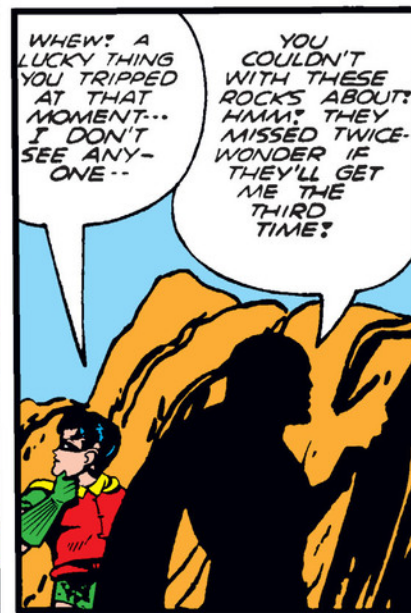
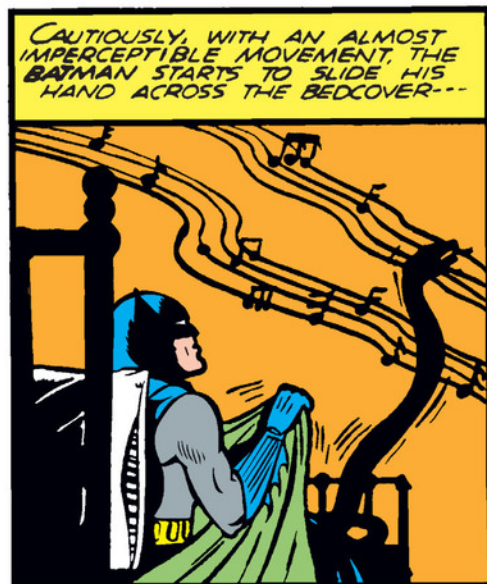
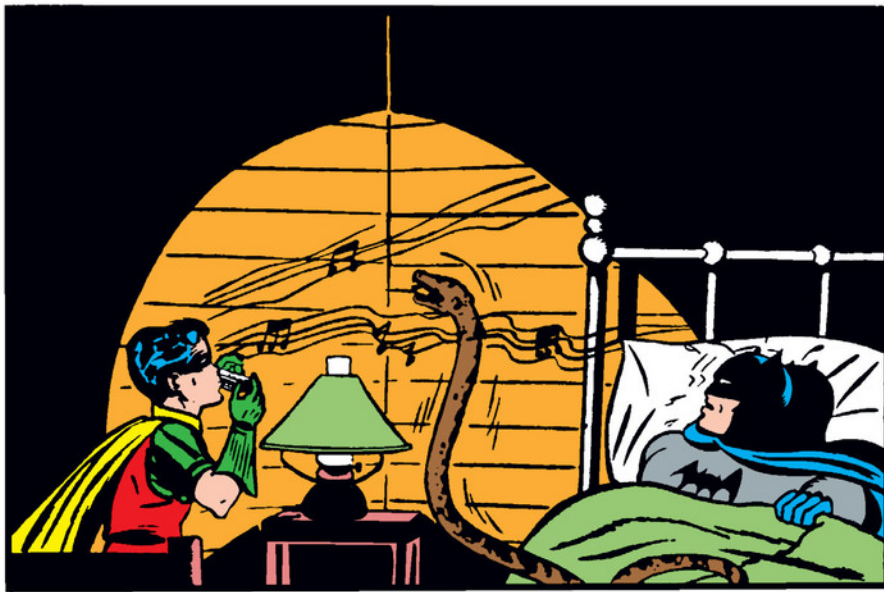
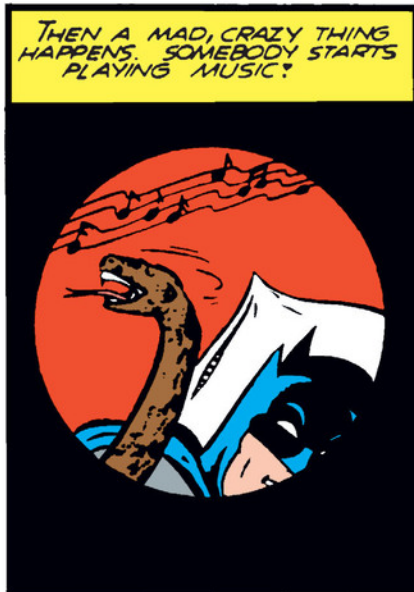
SAY...YOU COME OUT HERE TO BUST UP THIS HERE GHOST GANG?

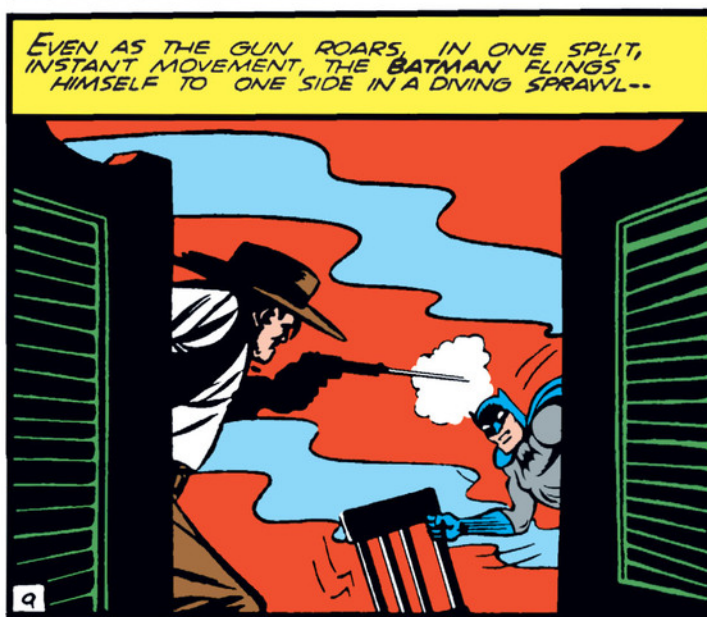
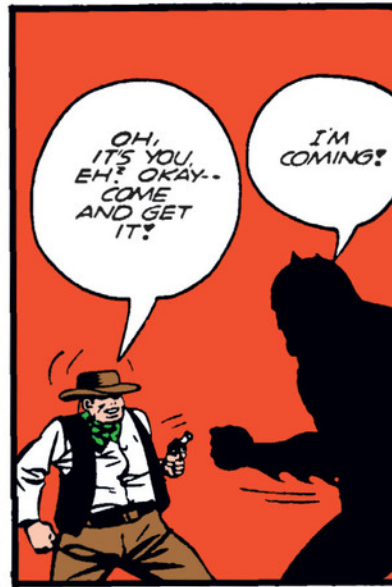
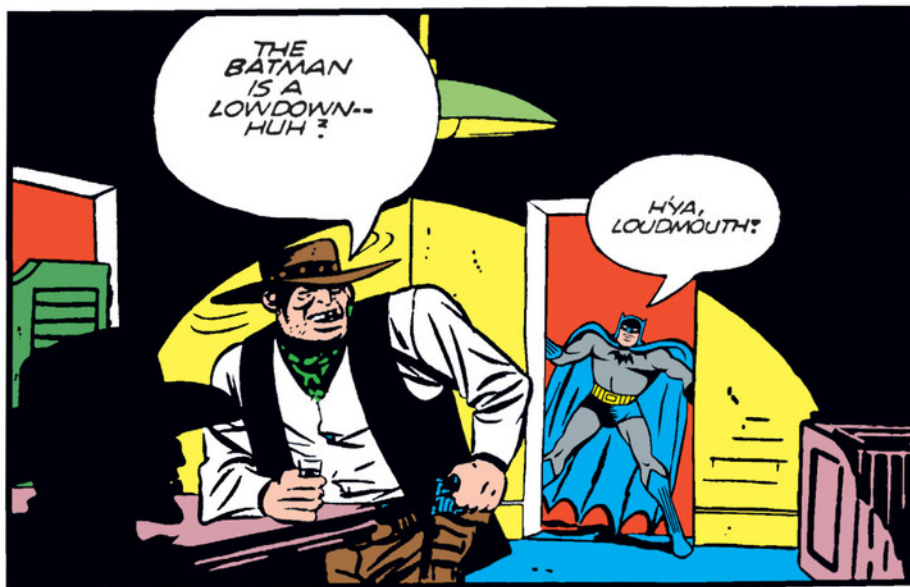
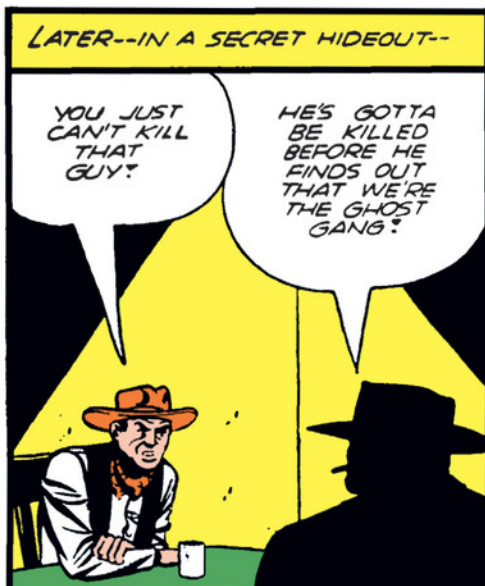
NOT ORIGINALLY, BUT NOW THAT I'M HERE, I INTEND TO CLEAN UP THE GHOST GANG!

...NOW IF I CAN FIND A HOTEL AROUND HERE TO PUT ME UP FOR MY STAY!

NO NEED FOR A HOTEL, **BATMAN**! I'D BE RIGHT HONORED IF YOU BUNKED OUT AT MY PLACE!



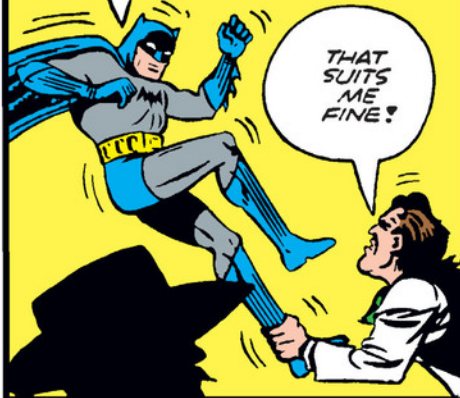




DARTING FORWARD, THE BATMAN KICKS THE GUN OUT OF HARM'S WAY WHERE IT HAD DROPPED NEAR THE KILLER'S HAND?

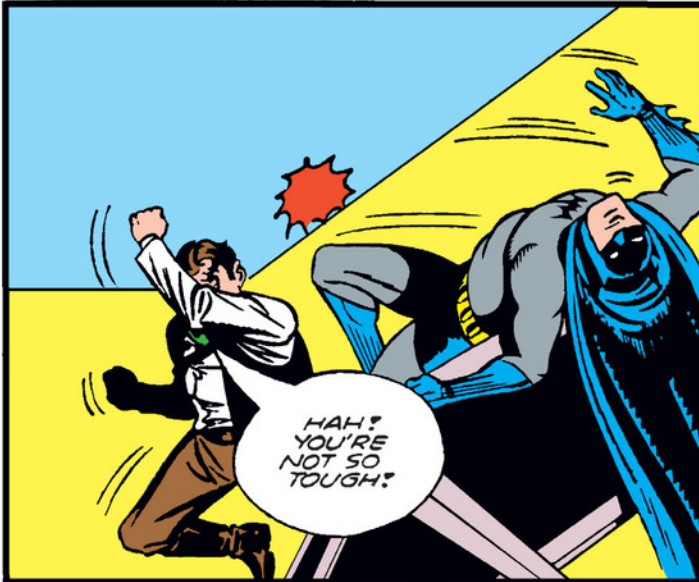
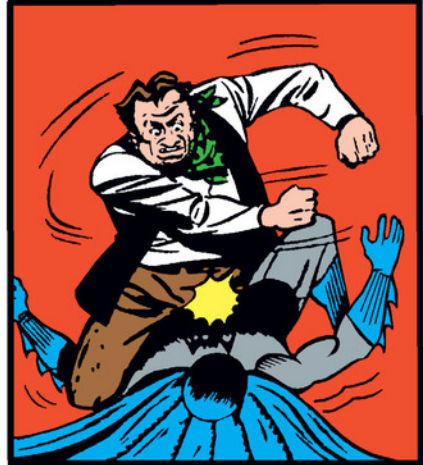


LET'S MAKE IT A NICE EVEN FIGHT, EH?



THAT SUITS ME FINE?

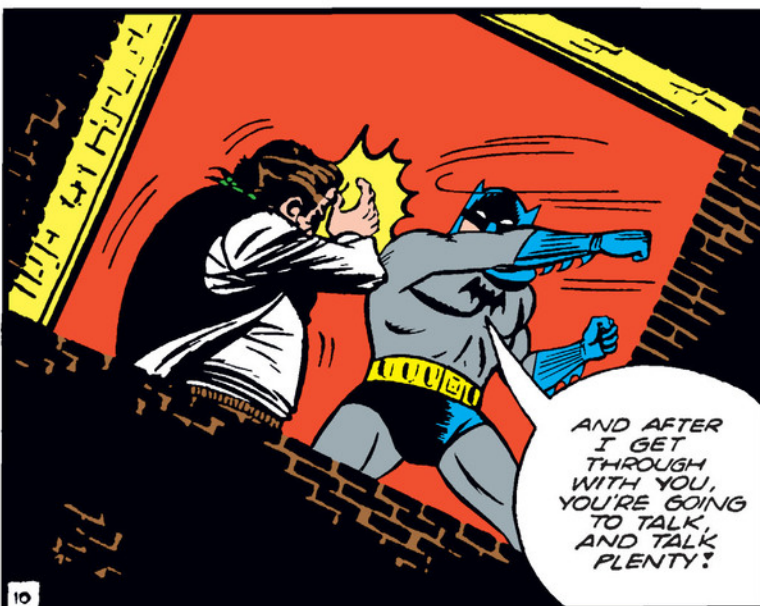
LIKE TWO SNARLING TIGERS, THEY ROLL ABOUT THE FLOOR IN A THRASHING TANGLE OF ARMS AND LEGS?



HAH? YOU'RE NOT SO TOUGH?



AND YOU'RE JUST A BIT TOO OPTIMISTIC?

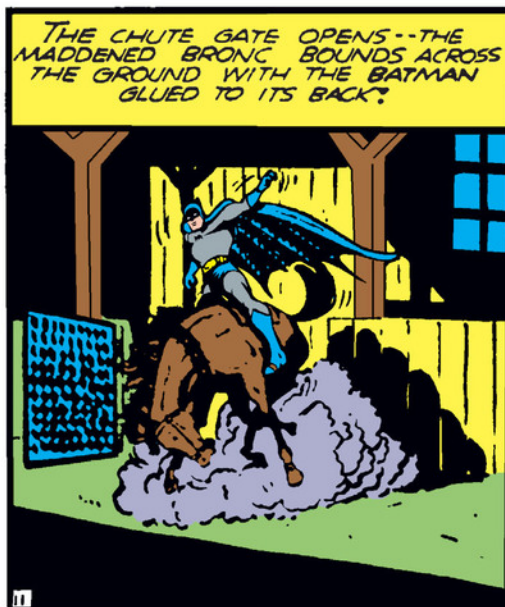
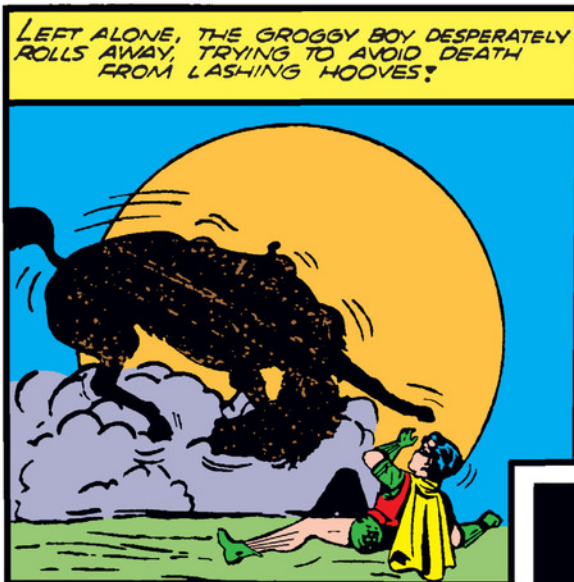
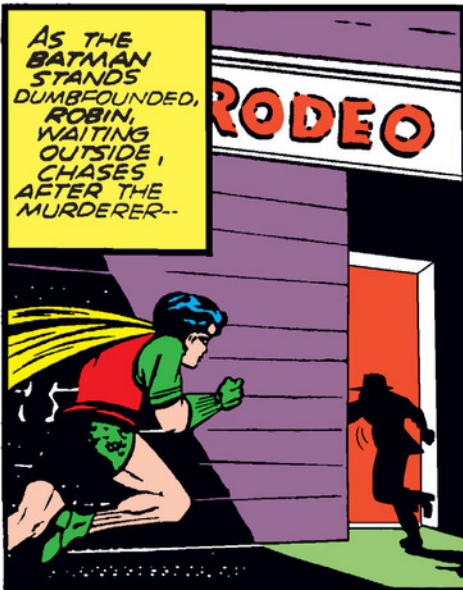


AND AFTER I GET THROUGH WITH YOU, YOU'RE GOING TO TALK, AND TALK PLENTY?

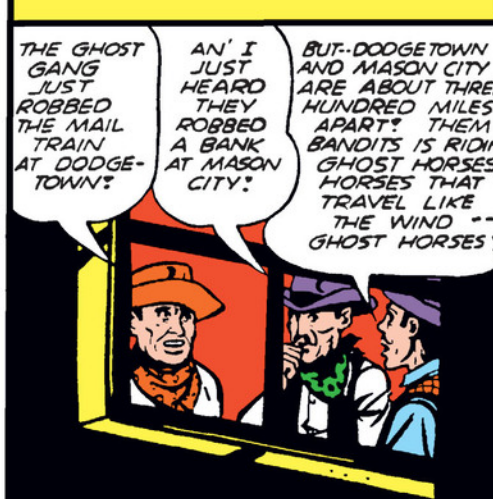
WITHOUT WARNING---THE CRACK OF A GUN?



UGH? I'M SHOT?



AS THE BATMAN SUBDUES THE WILD BRONC, STARTLING NEWS ROCKS THE TOWN!

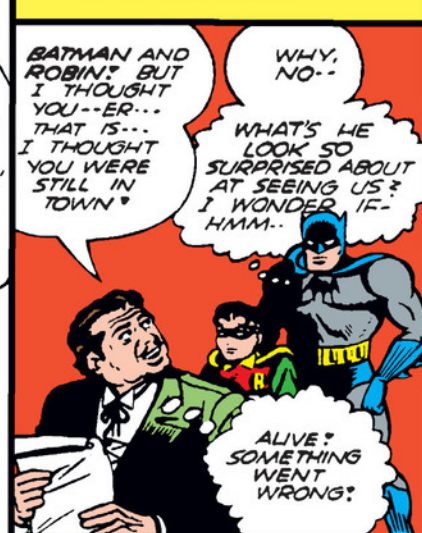


THE GHOST GANG JUST ROBBED THE MAIL TRAIN AT DODGE-TOWN?

AN' I JUST HEARD THEY ROBBED A BANK AT MASON CITY?

BUT--DODGETOWN AND MASON CITY ARE ABOUT THREE HUNDRED MILES APART! THEM BANDITS IS RIDIN' GHOST HORSES, HORSES THAT TRAVEL LIKE THE WIND -- GHOST HORSES!

SOMETIME LATER...

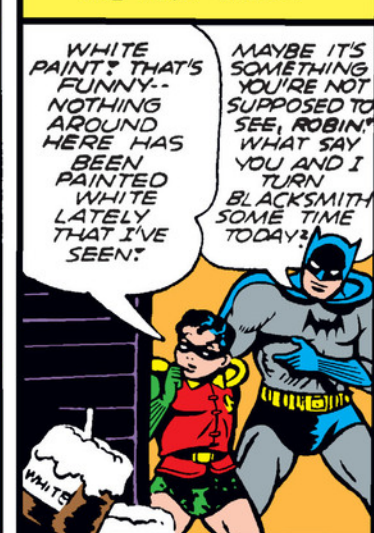


BATMAN AND ROBIN? BUT I THOUGHT YOU--ER... THAT IS... I THOUGHT YOU WERE STILL IN TOWN?

WHY, NO--
WHAT'S HE LOOK SO SURPRISED ABOUT AT SEEING US? I WONDER IF--
HMM...

ALIVE? SOMETHING WENT WRONG?

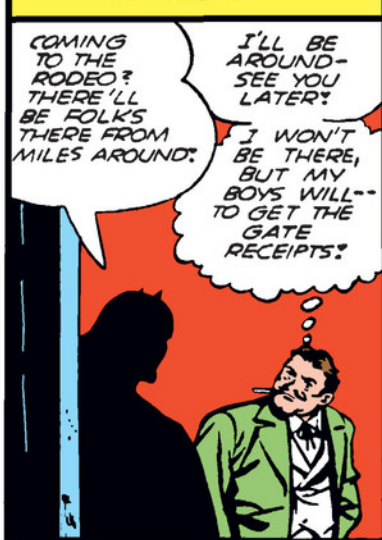
THE NEXT DAY--



WHITE PAINT? THAT'S FUNNY-- NOTHING AROUND HERE HAS BEEN PAINTED WHITE LATELY THAT I'VE SEEN?

MAYBE IT'S SOMETHING YOU'RE NOT SUPPOSED TO SEE, ROBIN? WHAT SAY YOU AND I TURN BLACKSMITH SOME TIME TODAY?

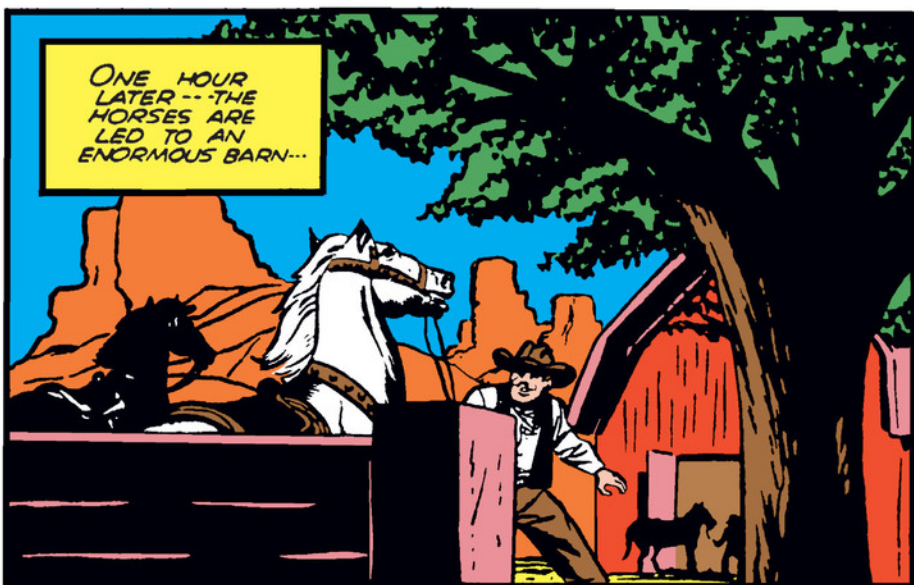
THAT NIGHT--



COMING TO THE RODEO? THERE'LL BE FOLKS THERE FROM MILES AROUND!

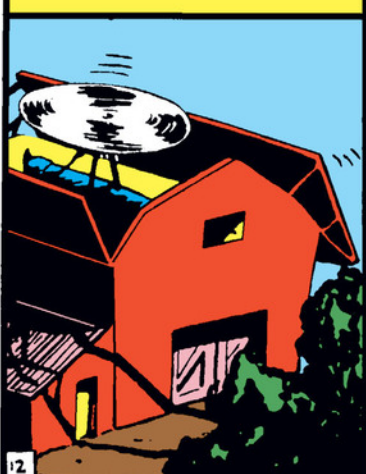
I'LL BE AROUND-- SEE YOU LATER?

I WON'T BE THERE, BUT MY BOYS WILL-- TO GET THE GATE RECEIPTS?



ONE HOUR LATER--THE HORSES ARE LED TO AN ENORMOUS BARN--

SHORTLY AFTER, THE ROOF OF THE BARN SLIDES BACK AND A WEIRD SOMETHING BEGINS TO RISE FROM WITHIN--



AN AUTOGIRO-----A BLACK, MONSTER AUTOGIRO WITH WHIRLING BLADES RISES INTO THE MOONLIT SKY---

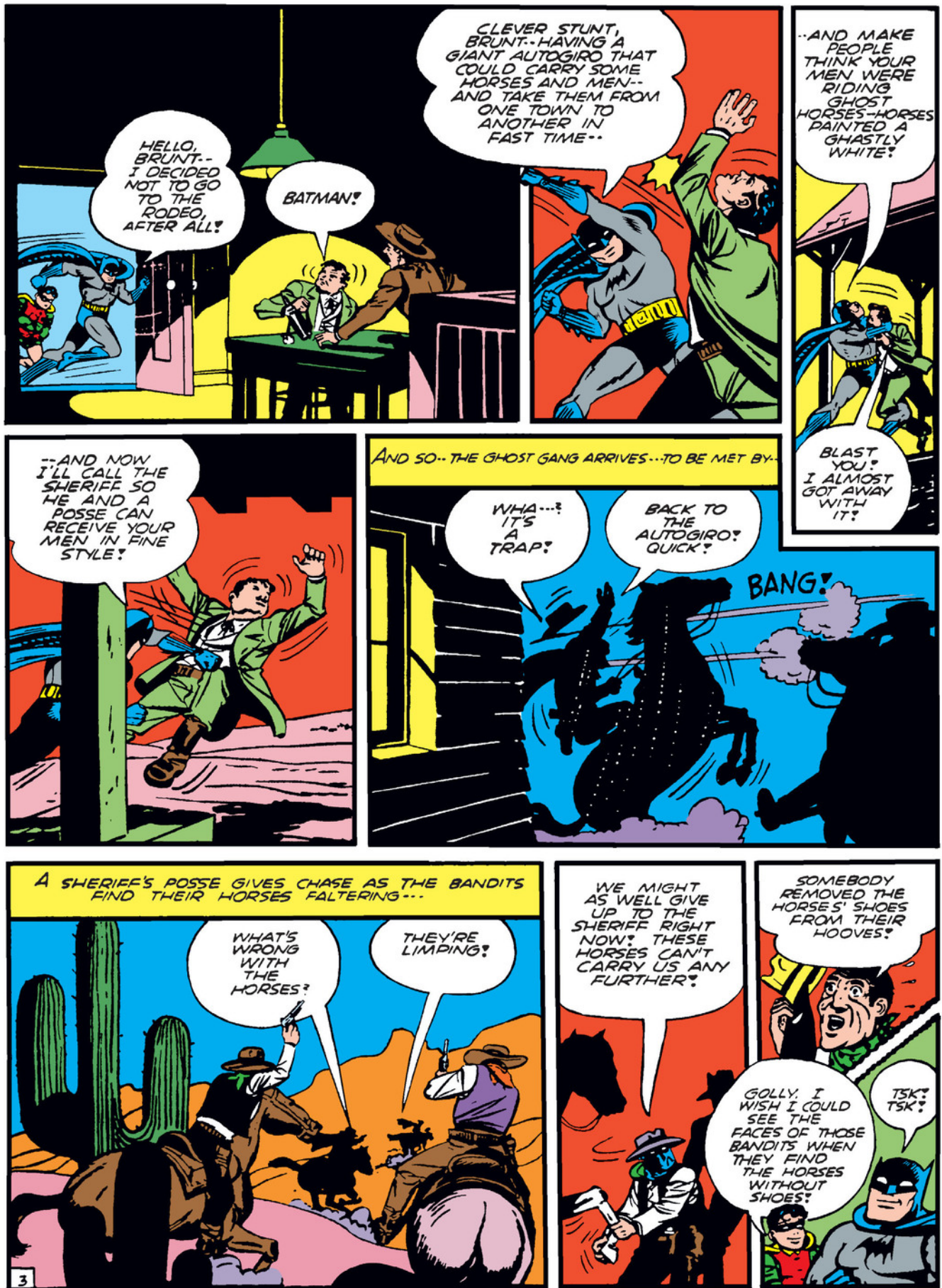


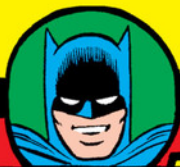
THERE IT IS, ROBIN! THE ANSWER TO EVERYTHING!

HERE'S WHERE WE MAKE THE BATMAN LOOK LIKE A FOOL? WE ROB THE RODEO, AND--HEY, WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH YOU?



ULP?-- L-LOOK- ULP?





No. 60



The BATMAN

Detective

REG. U. S. PAT. OFF.

FEB.

COMICS



BATMAN

WITH
ROBIN

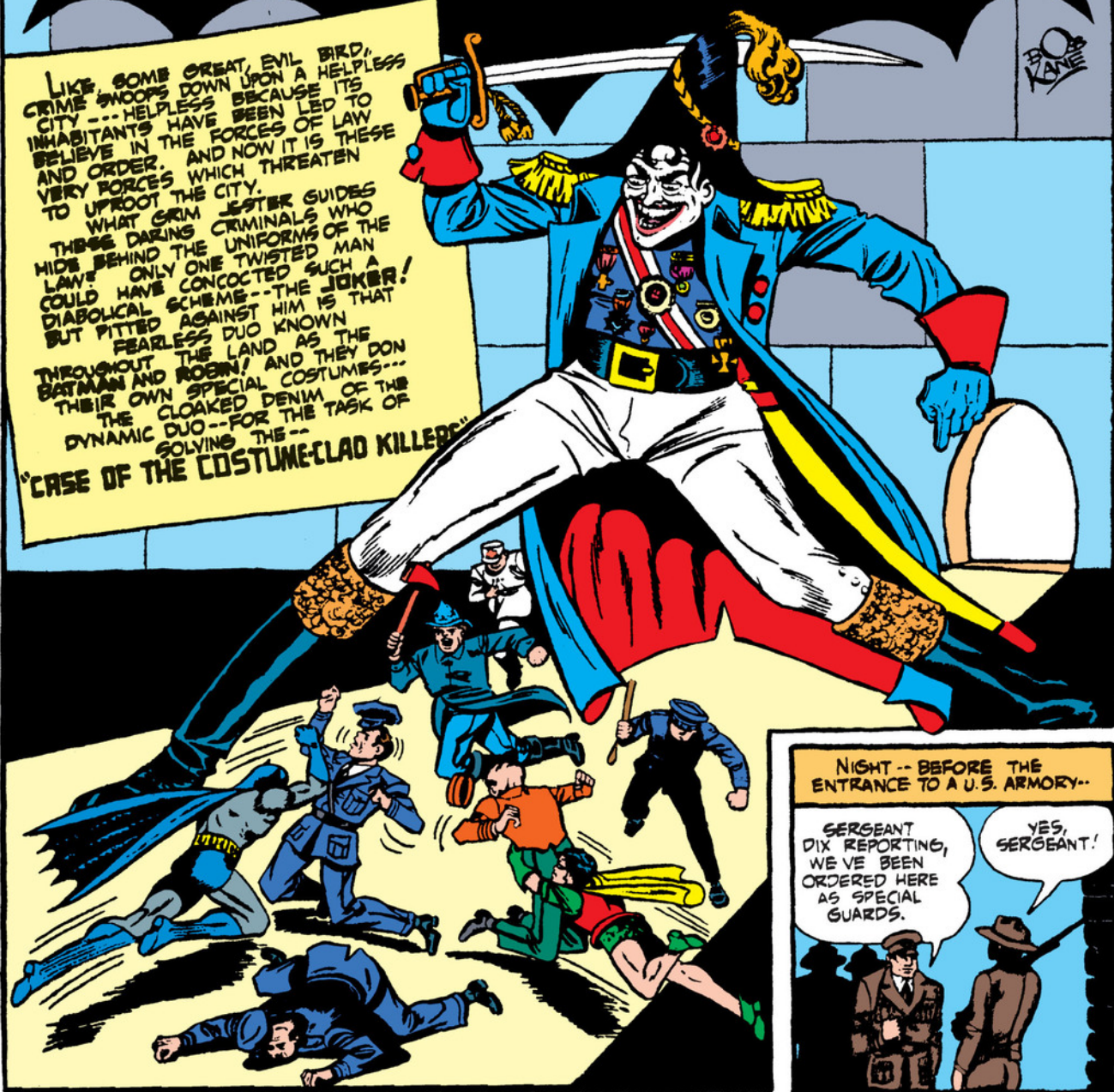
REG. U. S. PAT. OFF.

BOB KANE

LIKE SOME GREAT, EVIL BIRD, CRIME SWOOPS DOWN UPON A HELPLESS CITY --- HELPLESS BECAUSE ITS INHABITANTS HAVE BEEN LED TO BELIEVE IN THE FORCES OF LAW AND ORDER. AND NOW IT IS THESE VERY FORCES WHICH THREATEN TO UPROOT THE CITY.

WHAT GRIM JESTER GUIDES THESE DARING CRIMINALS WHO HIDE BEHIND THE UNIFORMS OF THE LAW? ONLY ONE TWISTED MAN COULD HAVE CONCOCTED SUCH A DIABOLICAL SCHEME---THE JOKER! BUT PITTED AGAINST HIM IS THAT FEARLESS DUO KNOWN THROUGHOUT THE LAND AS THE BATMAN AND ROBIN! AND THEY DON THEIR OWN SPECIAL COSTUMES--- THE CLOAKED DENIM OF THE DYNAMIC DUO---FOR THE TASK OF SOLVING THE--

"CASE OF THE COSTUME-CLAD KILLERS"

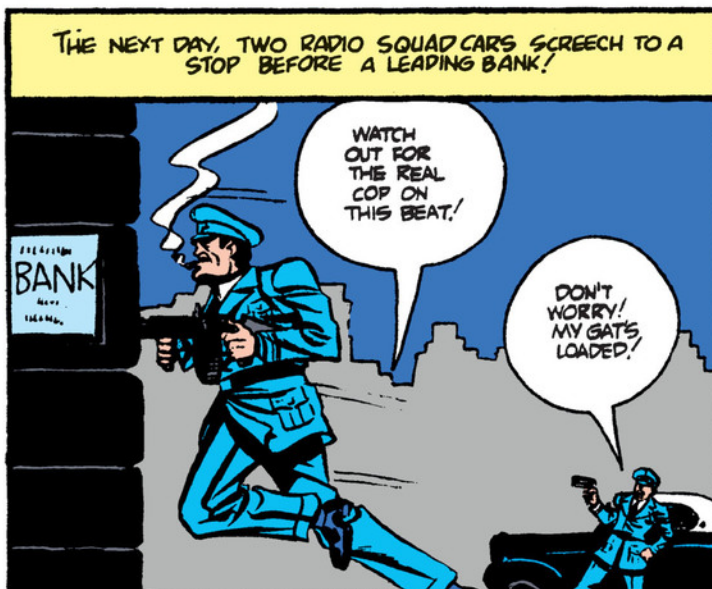


NIGHT -- BEFORE THE ENTRANCE TO A U.S. ARMORY--

SERGEANT DIX REPORTING, WE'VE BEEN ORDERED HERE AS SPECIAL GUARDS.

YES, SERGEANT!





AS AN ELECTRIFIED CROWD WATCHES, THE RUTHLESS RAIDERS SPEED AWAY IN OFFICIAL PROWL CARS---



SOMETIME LATER, THE UNIFORMED KILLERS STRIKE IN STILL ANOTHER PART OF THE CITY---



WE'VE GOT TO SAVE THOSE RUGS, BOYS!

HA! HA! THESE FIREMEN OUTFITS SURE ARE THE MC COY!

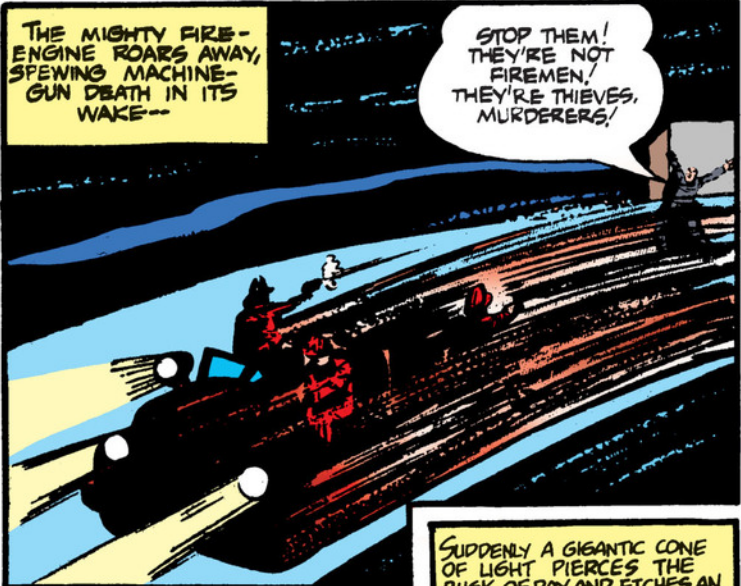
THESE ARE THE MOST VALUABLE, BOSS! WORTH A FEW GRAND APiece!

NOT A BAD HAUL! NOT BAD AT ALL!

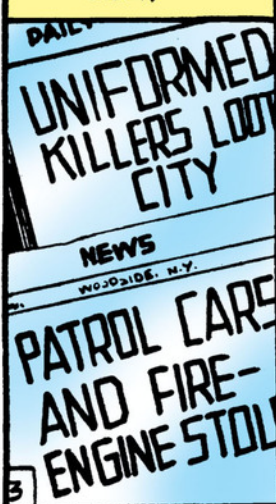


THE MIGHTY FIRE-ENGINE ROARS AWAY, SPEWING MACHINE-GUN DEATH IN ITS WAKE---

STOP THEM! THEY'RE NOT FIREMEN! THEY'RE THIEVES, MURDERERS!



HOURS LATER, NEWSPAPER EXTRAS SCREAM THE AMAZING STORY!



RETURNING FROM A BRIEF VACATION, BRUCE WAYNE AND YOUNG DICK GRAYSON READ THE STARTLING NEWS---

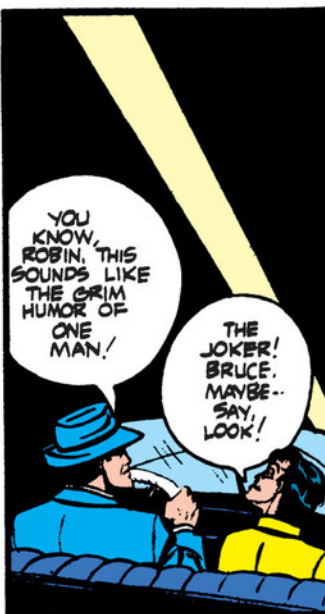
A CLEVER GANG! THEY SECURED UNIFORMS OF POLICEMEN AND FIREMEN--THEN IMPERSONATED THE OFFICIALS!

SMART PLANNING!



YOU KNOW, ROBIN, THIS SOUNDS LIKE THE GRIM HUMOR OF ONE MAN!

THE JOKER! BRUCE, MAYBE-- SAY, LOOK!



SUDDENLY A GIGANTIC CONE OF LIGHT PIERCES THE DUSK OF DAY AND ETCHES AN EERIE SYMBOL AGAINST A BLACK CLOUD-- THE SILHOUETTE OF A GIANT BAT!



THAT'S COMING FROM THE SEARCHLIGHT ON THE ROOF OF POLICE HEADQUARTERS!

YES-- THEY'RE CALLING THE BATMAN!

WE'VE GOT BUSINESS TO ATTEND TO, DICK!

MOMENTS LATER, AT BRUCE WAYNE'S HOME, THE PLAYBOY AND HIS WARD UNDERGO AN ASTONISHING TRANSFORMATION!

NOTHING LIKE ACTION TO TAKE THE EDGE OFF A VACATION!

FOR UNKNOWN TO MILLIONS OF CITIZENS WHOM THEY GUARD, THE TWO ARE REALLY THE RENOWNED -- BATMAN AND ROBIN --

PRESENTLY, THE BATMOBILE ROCKETS THROUGH THE STREETS IN ANSWER TO THE SUMMONS FROM THE SKY!

IN COMMISSIONER GORDON'S PRIVATE OFFICE, BRUCE WAYNE'S SHREWD HUNCH IS CONFIRMED --

THE JOKER'S BEHIND THESE HOLDUPS! LOOK AT THIS!

THE SIGN OF THE JOKER --

HA! HA! HA! SOLDIERS! POLICEMEN! FIREMEN! HA! HA! ...AND THE WEATHER WON'T STOP ME FROM TAKING FORTUNE FROM UNDER YOUR NOSES!

THE WEATHER? HMM -- THE WEATHER REPORT FOR TODAY IS "POSSIBLE LIGHT SNOW!" WHY SHOULD SNOW STOP THE JOKER? I DON'T GET HIS CRYPTIC HUMOR!

WAIT A MINUTE! "WEATHER -- SNOW!" "UNIFORMED KILLERS!" "RIGHT UNDER YOUR NOSES." THERE'S ONLY ONE PLACE THAT FITS THE PICTURE! COME ON, ROBIN!

SNAP!

NOW WHAT ARE YOU UP TO?

LATER --

WHERE ARE WE GOING?

TO THE POST OFFICE! I HAPPENED TO REMEMBER THE INSCRIPTION OVER THE PORTALS OF THE MAIN BRANCH! "NEITHER RAIN NOR SNOW, NOR HEAT NOR GLOOM OF NIGHT STAYS THESE COURIERS FROM THE SWIFT COMPLETION OF THEIR APPOINTED ROUNDS --"

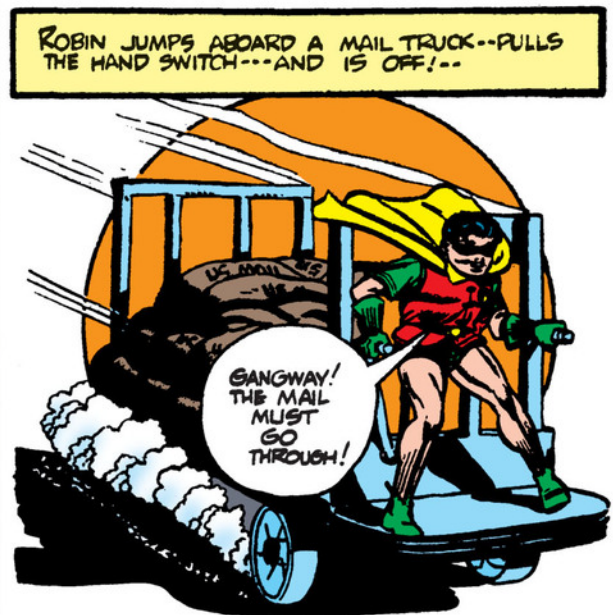
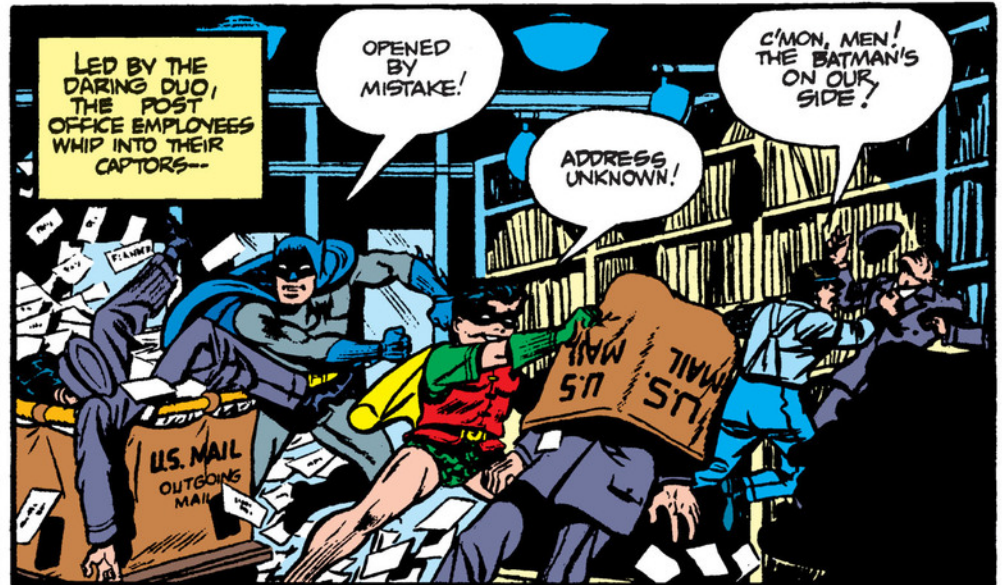
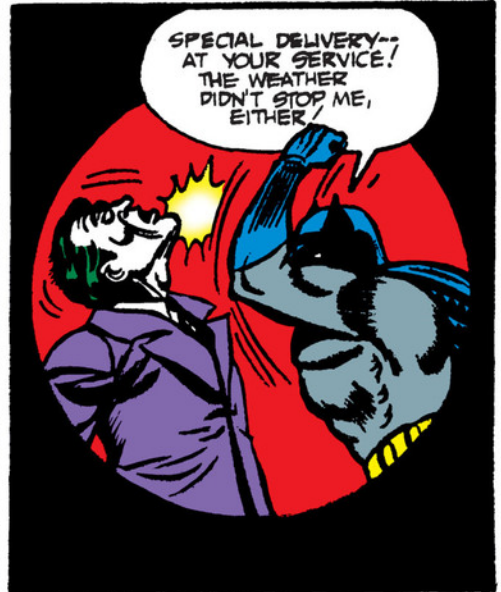
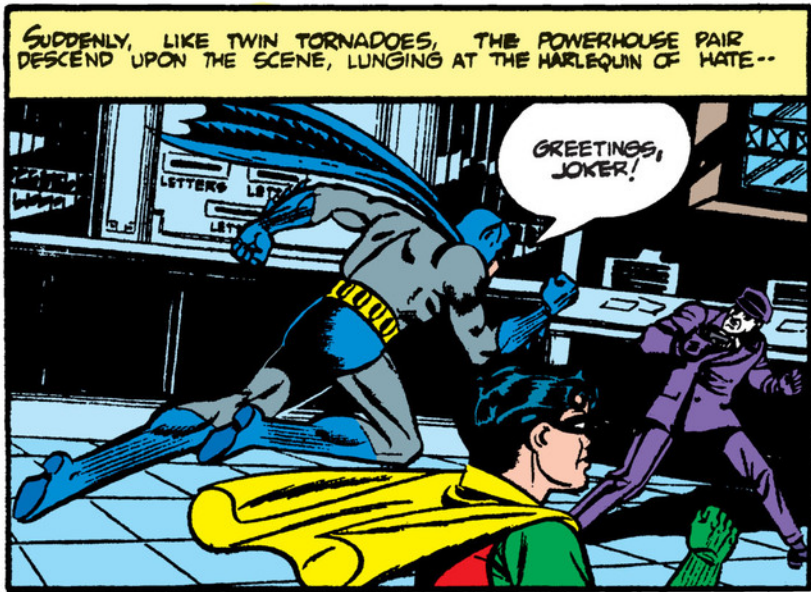
SO THAT'S WHAT THE JOKER MEANT! UNIFORMED MAILMEN! AND THIS POST OFFICE IS ONLY A BLOCK AWAY FROM POLICE HEADQUARTERS -- "RIGHT UNDER THEIR NOSES!"

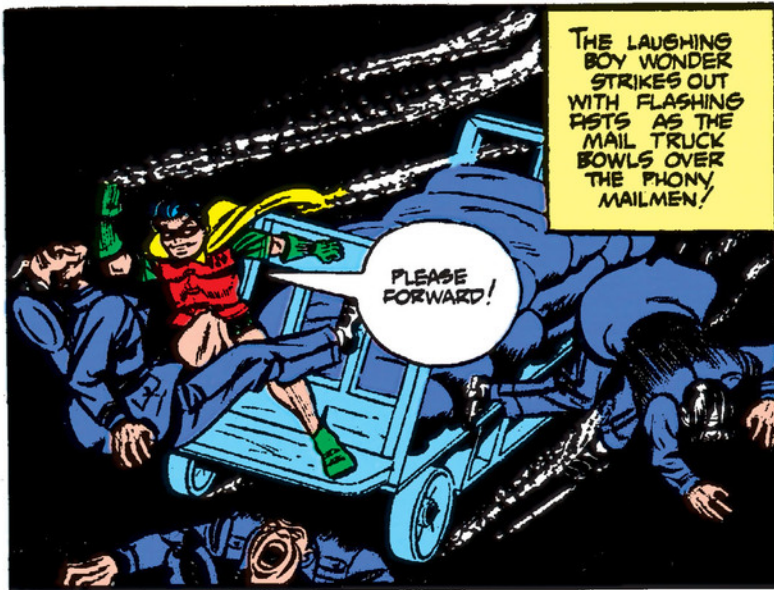
POST OFFICE

YES -- AND LOOK HOW FRESH THESE MEN ARE! IT'S THE END OF THE DAY, AND THEY'RE NOT TIRED IN THE LEAST!

INSIDE THE POST OFFICE, THE MASQUERADING KILLERS EXECUTE THEIR LATEST COUP --

OPEN THAT SAFE -- AND BE QUICK ABOUT IT!





THE LAUGHING
BOY WONDER
STRIKES OUT
WITH FLASHING
FISTS AS THE
MAIL TRUCK
BOWLS OVER
THE PHONY
MAILMEN!

PLEASE
FORWARD!



TERSELY SNAPPING ORDERS, THE
CUNNING CRIME CLOWN LEADS HIS PACK
OF JACKALS IN A HASTY RETREAT--

COME ON,
MEN- TO OUR
TRUCK! THIS
ROUND'S THE
BATMAN'S!



THEY'RE
GETTING
AWAY IN
THAT MAIL
TRUCK!

THE
BATMOBILE
WILL CATCH
THEM! COME
ON!



A MOMENT LATER THE BAT-
MOBILE ROARS IN THE WAKE
OF THE UNIFORMED KILLERS!

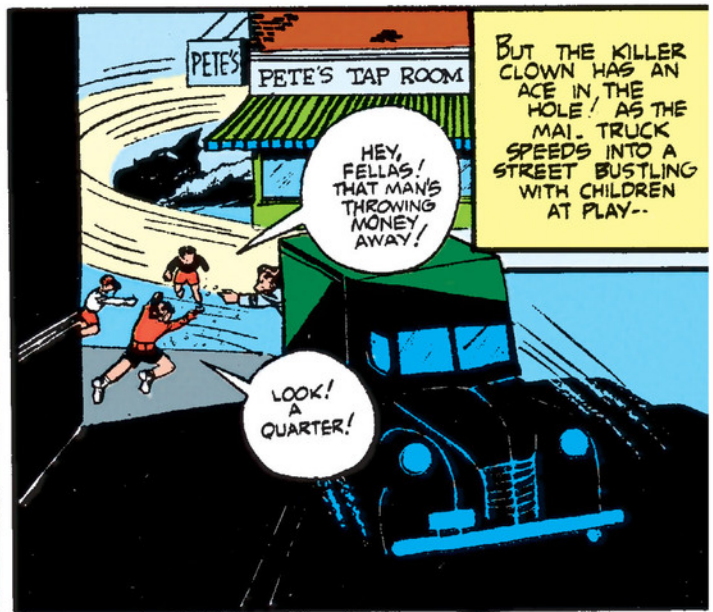


SEE IF YOU CAN
RIDE OVER THESE,
BATMAN!

THEY'LL
NEVER RIDE ON
OUR TACKS
AND BROKEN
GLASS.



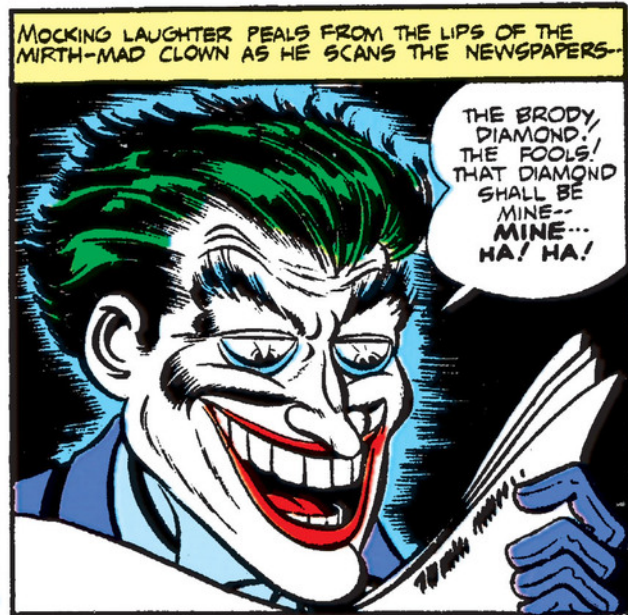
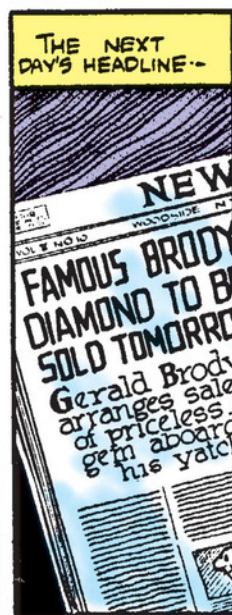
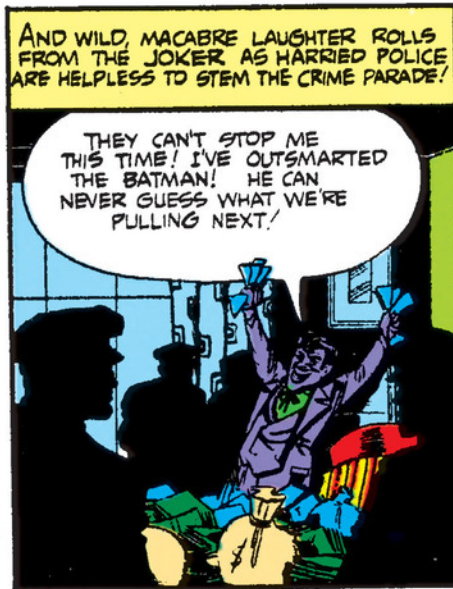
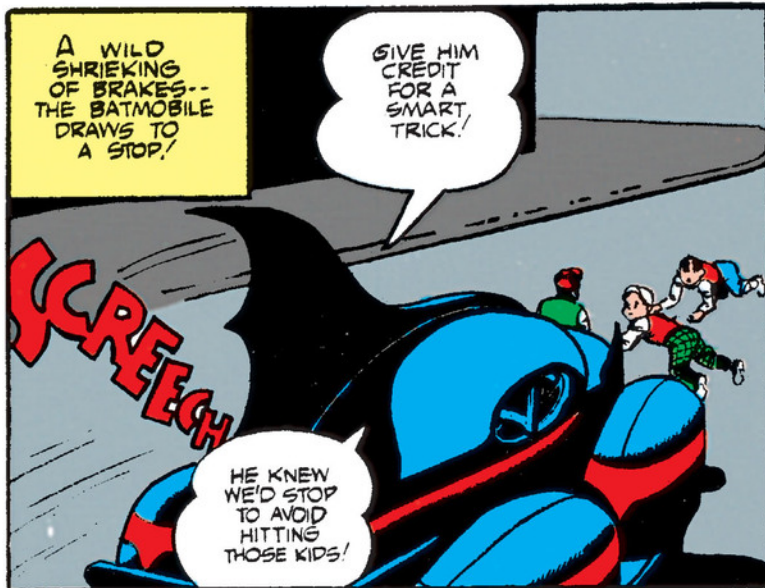
TAKE MORE
THAN THAT
TO RIP OUR
SPECIAL
TIRES!

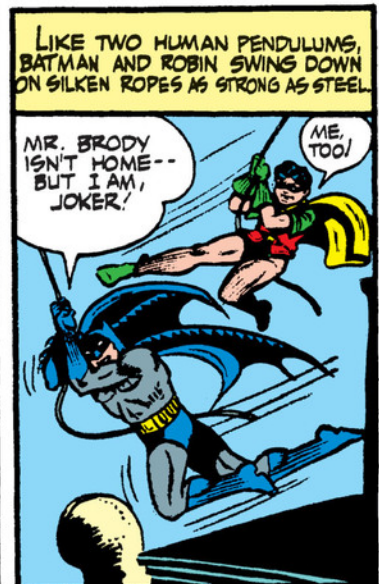
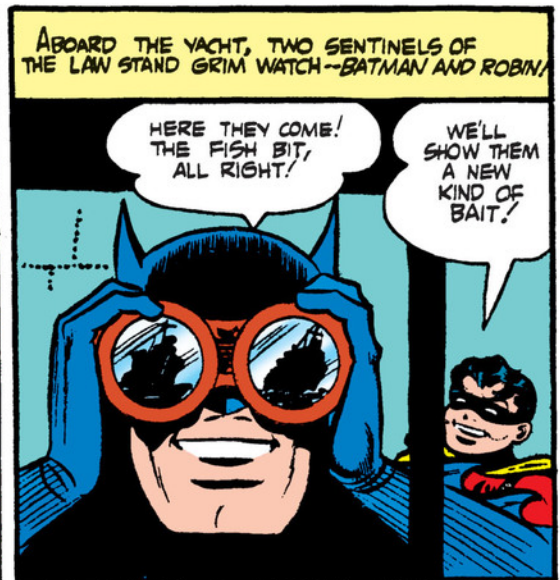
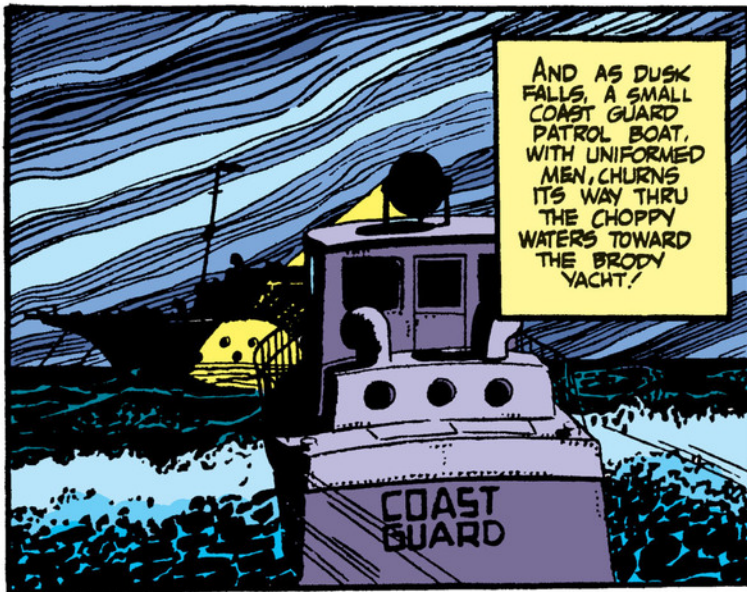


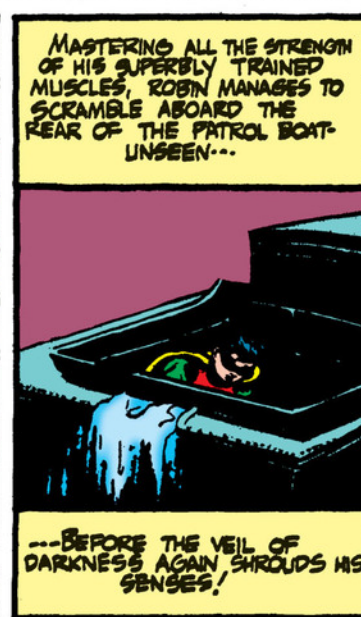
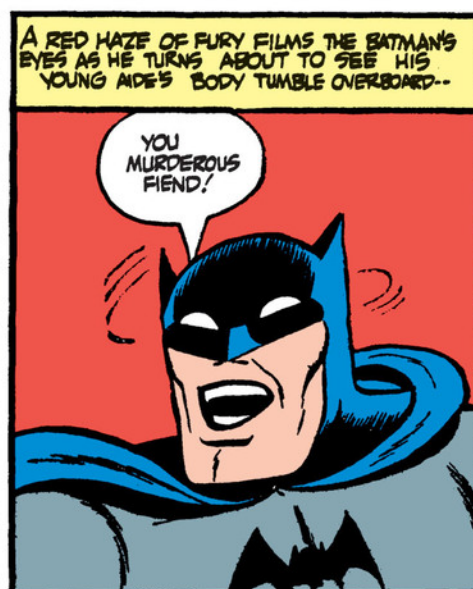
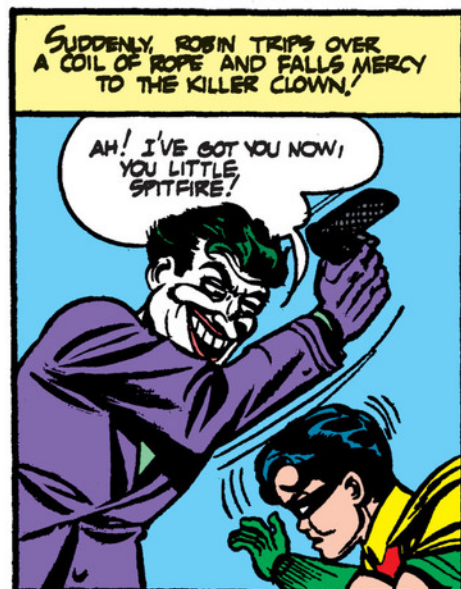
HEY,
FELLAS!
THAT MAN'S
THROWING
MONEY
AWAY!

LOOK!
A
QUARTER!

BUT THE KILLER
CLOWN HAS AN
ACE IN THE
HOLE! AS THE
MAIL TRUCK
SPEEDS INTO A
STREET BUSTLING
WITH CHILDREN
AT PLAY--







ABOARD THE YACHT, THE GRIM JESTER TRIUMPHANTLY FACES HIS GREAT ENEMY-- AND BRINGS THEIR FAMOUS DUEL OF WITS TO AN END...

LET'S TAKE HIM TO CHARLIE'S. WE'LL DRESS HIM UP TO KILL--HA! HA!

NO, WE'LL KILL HIM HERE! DROWN HIM! LIKE HIS CHUM!

ROBIN LOST! A STRANGE DULLNESS GRIPS BATMAN'S HEART--AND BLACK DESPAIR NUMBS HIS BRAIN!

TIE HIM TO THE DAVIT! I'LL MAKE HIM SUFFER BEFORE HE DIES! THE BATMAN GAVE ME SOME TOUGH OPPOSITION--BUT I ALWAYS WIN AT THE END!

ROBIN, DEAD! I DON'T CARE WHAT HAPPENS TO ME NOW!

WHEN THE BURNING FUSE REACHES THE ROPE-- WELL--I HATE TO SAY IT!

THE FLAME LICKS NEARER AND NEARER-- UNTIL--THE FIRST STRANDS OF THE ROPE ARE IGNITED!

PROPELLER LASHING THE WATER TO A WHITE FROTH, THE KILLER CLOWN STREAKS THE STOLEN SHIP TOWARD SHORE--UNWARE OF THE UNCONSCIOUS CARGO HE CARRIES IN THE REAR

LATER-- AS THE COAST GUARD BOAT DOCKS AT A DESERTED PIER-- THERE IS A FAINT SIGH--THE FLUTTERING OF EYELIDS--AND ROBIN'S EYES OPEN--

WHERE AM I? OH, YES--I REMEMBER--GOSH! THEY GOT AWAY FROM THE YACHT! I'LL FOLLOW THEM--

WON'T THE BATMAN BE SURPRISED WHEN I LOCATE THE JOKER!

LITTLE DOES ROBIN REALIZE THAT AT THIS VERY MOMENT THE BATMAN IS ENGAGED IN A GRIM CONTEST WITH DEATH!

LATER--

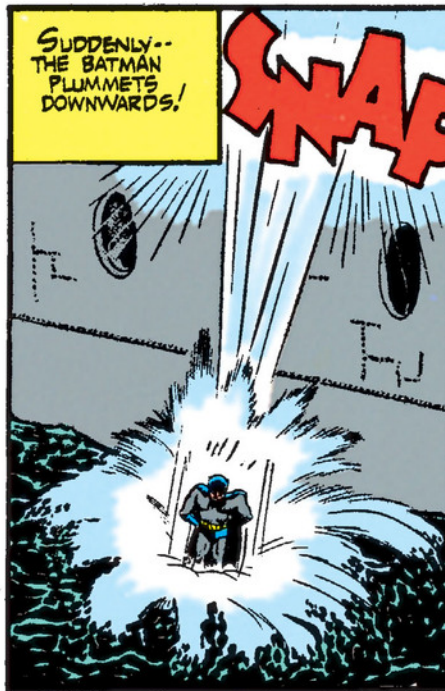
SO THAT'S THE JOKER'S HIDEOUT! I'LL GET IN TOUCH WITH THE BATMAN!

MY WIRELESS JAMMED! WATER MUST HAVE LEAKED IN, AND SPOILED THE MECHANISM! I CAN'T LEAVE HERE-- THE JOKER, MIGHT DECIDE TO BEAT IT! I'LL GET INSIDE AND SEE WHAT'S WHAT!

BACK ON THE YACHT, THE CRIME-FIGHTER'S LETHARGY IS REPLACED BY A TERRIBLE RAGE--- LIKE A SLUMBERING LION AROUSED, THE VENGEANCE-BENT BATMAN ESTIMATES HIS CHANCES OF ESCAPE!



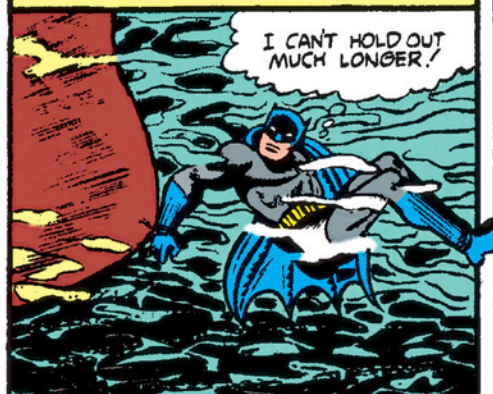
SUDDENLY-- THE BATMAN PLUMMETS DOWNWARDS!



BUT THE BATMAN IS FIGHTING NOW---FIGHTING WITH THE HURRICANE FURY THAT HAS MADE HIM FAMOUS---



LIKE A GIANT EEL, HE WRITHES AND TWISTS THROUGH THE CHILL WATERS TOWARD THE KEEN KNIFE-LIKE BLADES-



--THE BATMAN STICKS TO HIS HOPELESS-SEEMING TASK UNTIL FINALLY---



HIS ARMS EXPERTLY SLASHING THROUGH THE WATER, HE SHOOTS TO THE SURFACE.



IT IS THE WORK OF A MINUTE TO FREE HIS LEGS, AND THEN -----

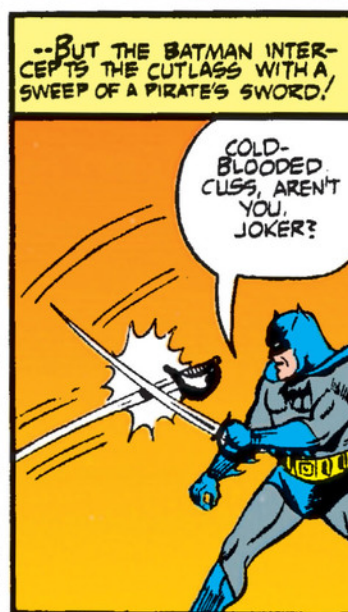




AS THE LONE FIGURE OF THE BATMAN SWINGS INTO PANTHERISH ACTION, LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD SUDDENLY COMES TO LIFE!



IT IS THE LAUGHING BOY WONDER! QUICK AS A WINK, ROBIN DISCARDS THE COSTUME THAT HAS CONCEALED HIS PRESENCE AND JOINS THE JOYOUS BATMAN--



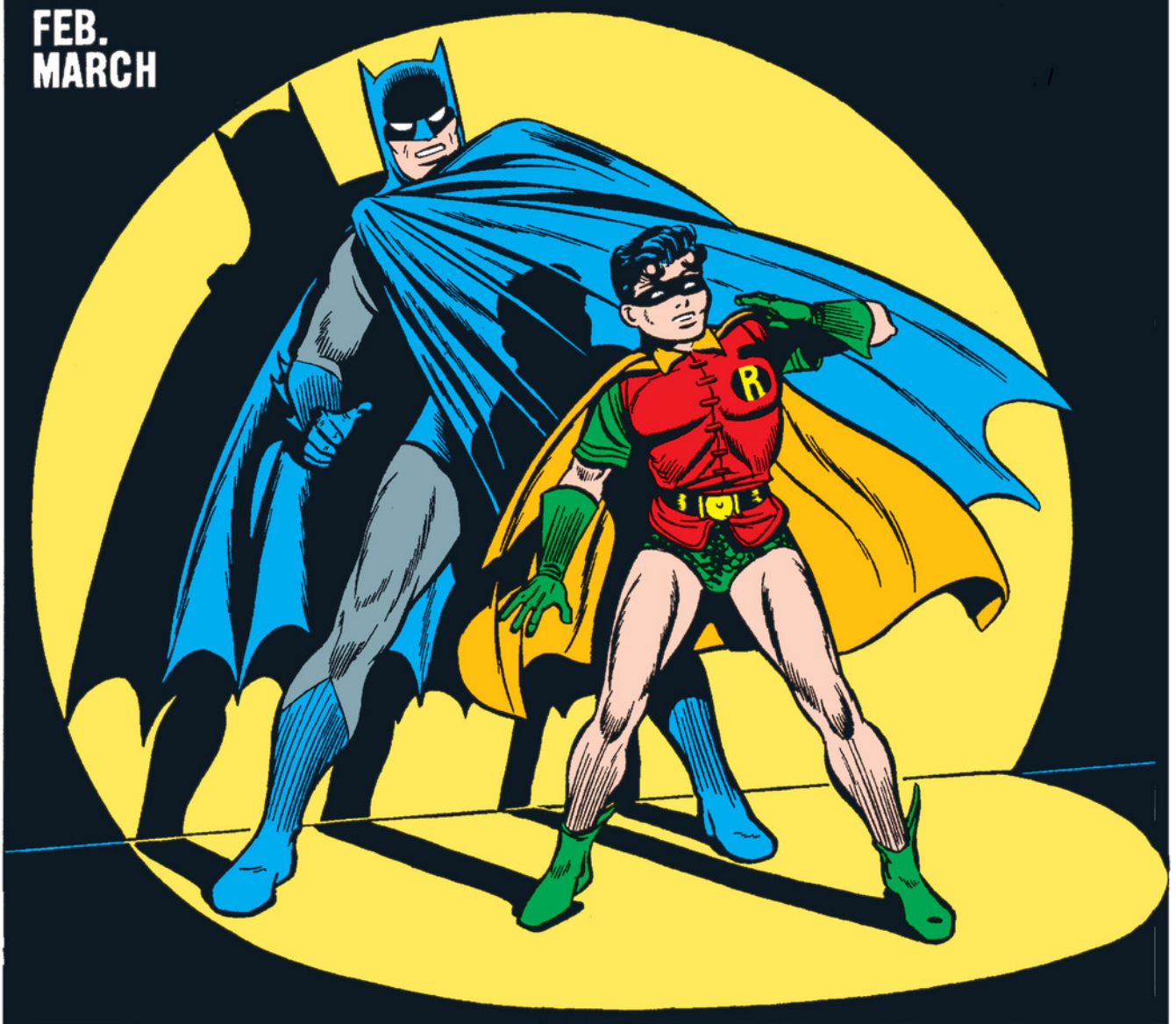


No. 9



BATMAN

FEB.
MARCH



BAT MAN

WITH
ROBIN

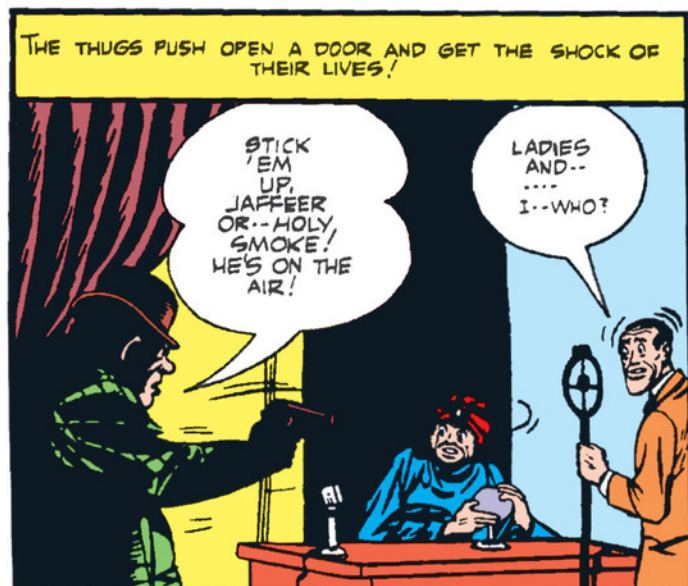
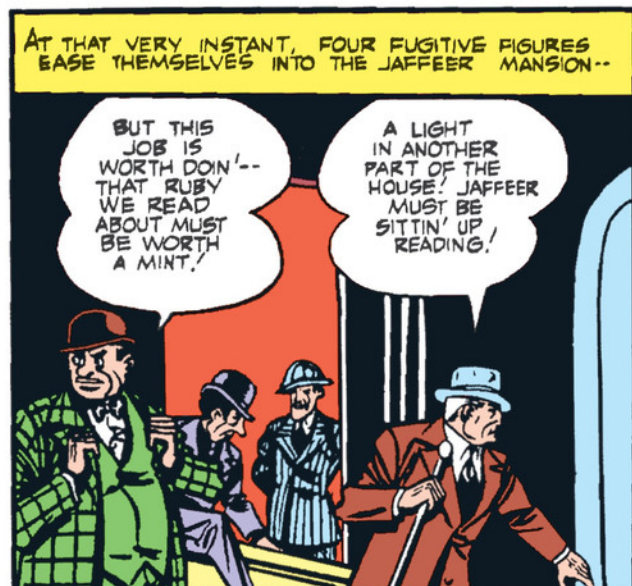
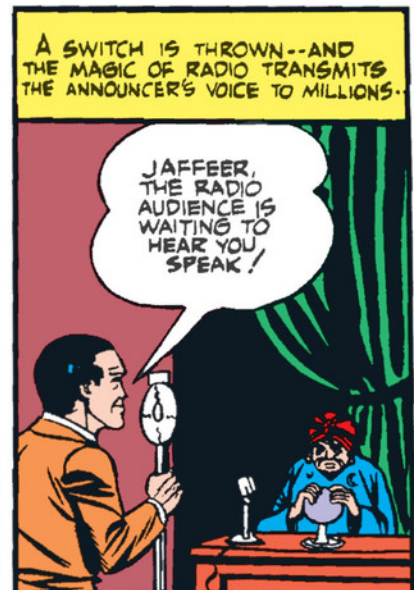
HERE IS A TALE OF MYSTERY AS OLD AS MAN IS OLD. A TALE, ALSO, OF FOUR SKEPTICAL, BIG-TIME RACKETEERS WHO FIND BLASTING GUNS HELPLESS AGAINST THE BLACK, RELENTLESS FORCES OF THE UNKNOWN! MIGHTY BATMAN AND ROBIN—BATTLING THIS SAME VICIOUS CRIME BAND—COME UPON THINGS AND HAPPENINGS THAT EVEN THEY ARE UNABLE TO EXPLAIN. MERE COINCIDENCE? PERHAPS—WHO CAN REALLY TELL? CAN YOU RIP AWAY THE VEIL OF MYSTERY THAT SHROUDS THESE INEXPLICABLE EVENTS—AND SOLVE THE BAFFLING RIDDLE OF --- THE FOUR FATES!

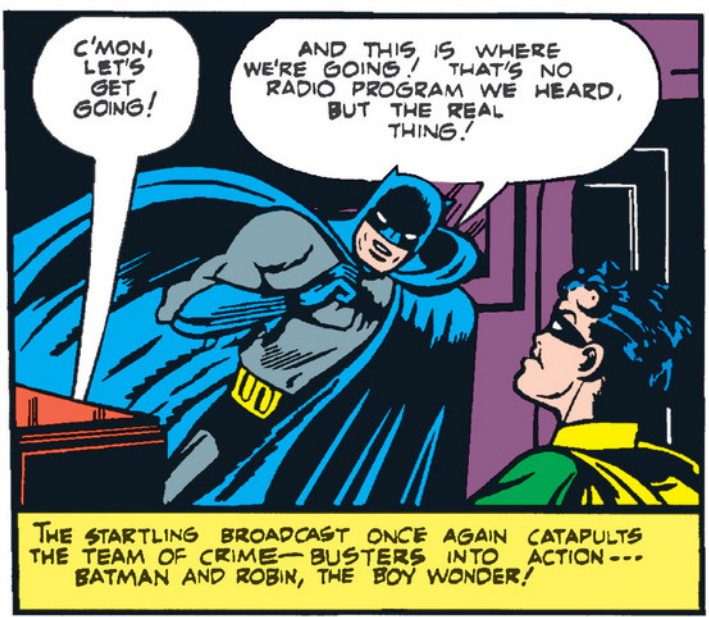
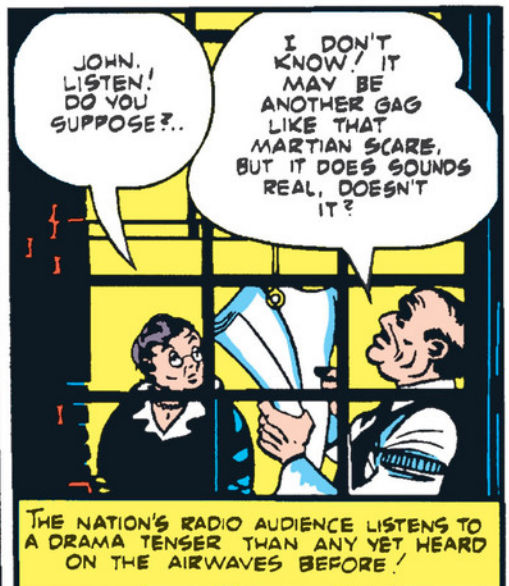
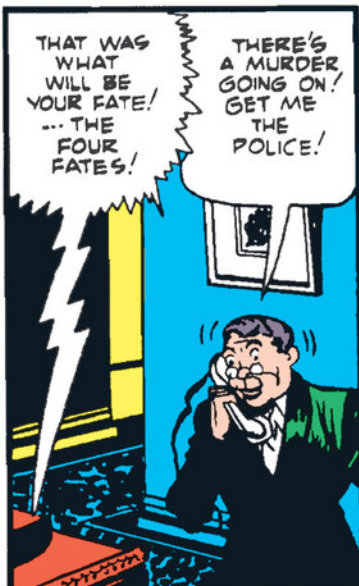


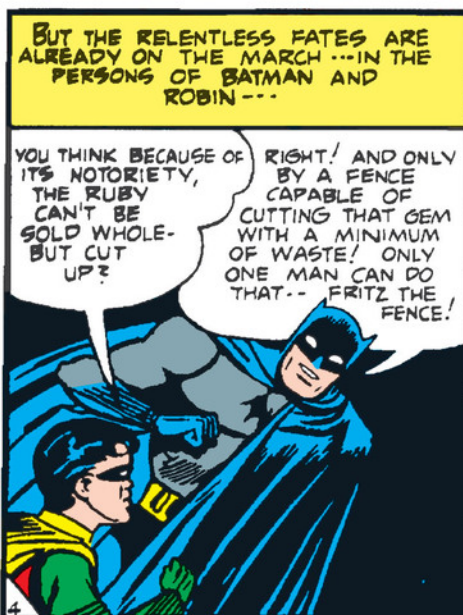
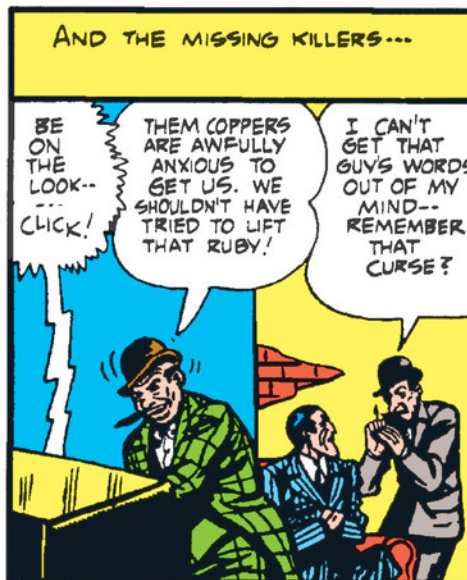
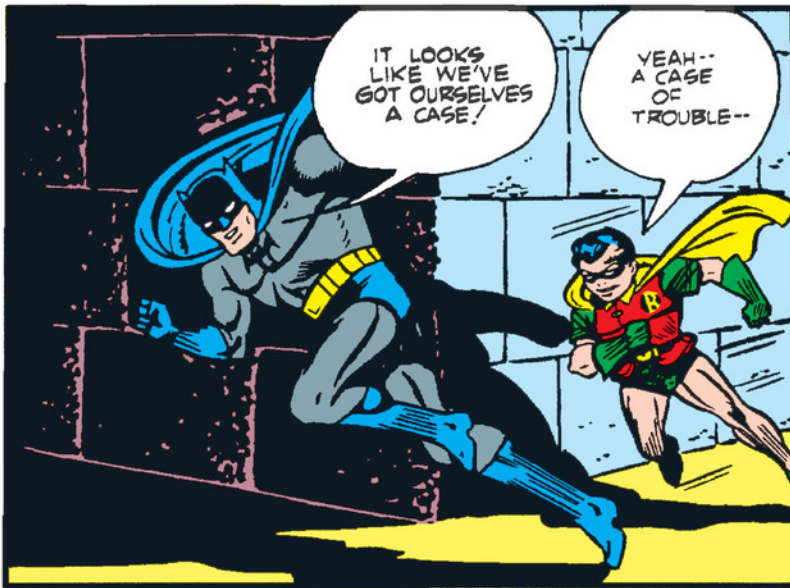
TONIGHT WE BRING YOU "PERSONALITIES" AT HOME!

WASH UP YOUR DISHES LATER, MOM. YOUR FAVORITE RADIO PROGRAM IS ON AGAIN TONIGHT!











CHUM, YOU AND I ARE GOING TO HAVE WORDS!



THINK I MIGHT PERSUADE YOU TO TELL ME A FEW CHOICE FACTS ABOUT OUR FUGITIVE FOURSOME?

I...I THINK I MIGHT KNOW SOMETHING!



SOME MOMENTS LATER--

THAT LOOKS LIKE THE HOUSE FRITZ TOLD US ABOUT.

THEY'RE HIDING OUT IN THE BASEMENT! LET'S CRASH RIGHT INTO IT!

TWO SLAMMING BODIES RIP A ROTTED DOOR FROM ITS HINGES--AND ARE GREETED BY BLASTING GUNFIRE--



COME RIGHT IN, BATMAN!



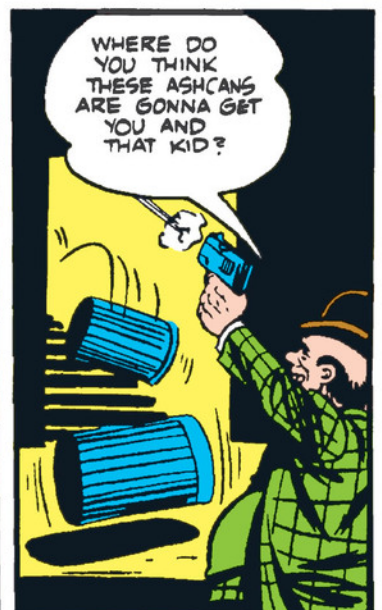
RETREATING DOWN THE STEPS INTO THE ALLEY, THE KILLERS THROW UP A WHINING RAMPART OF BULLETS THAT HOLDS THE DUO AT BAY.

WAIT--THOSE ASHCANS-- MAYBE--
--HAM--

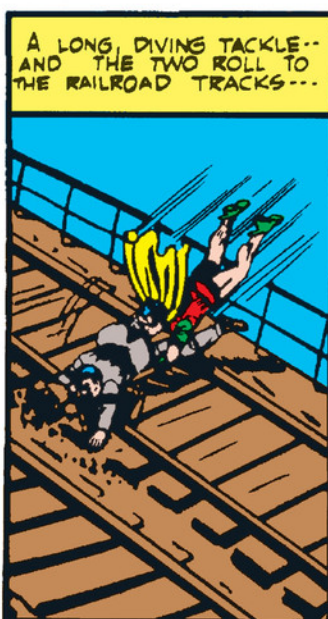
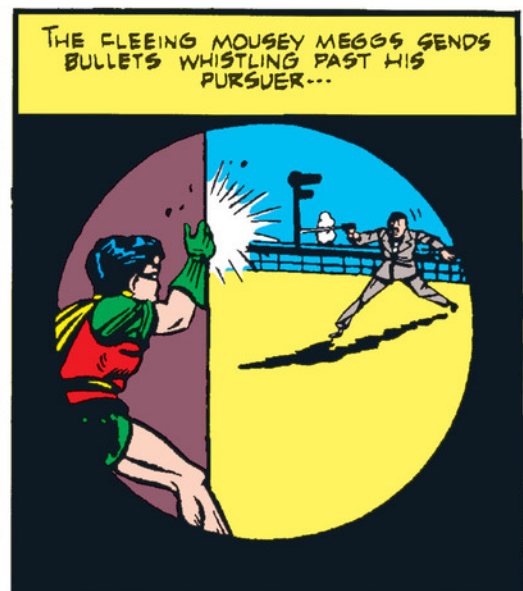
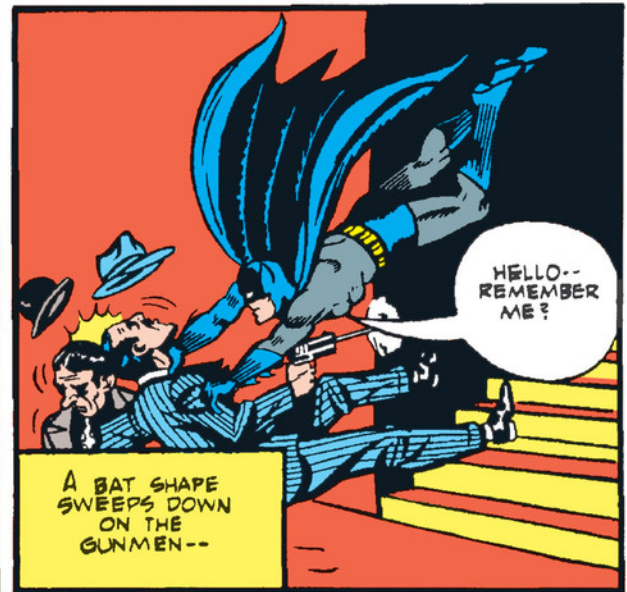
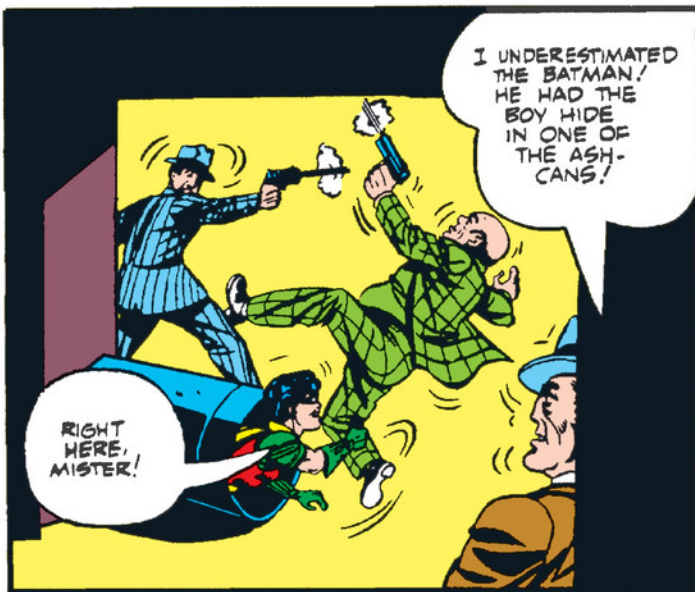


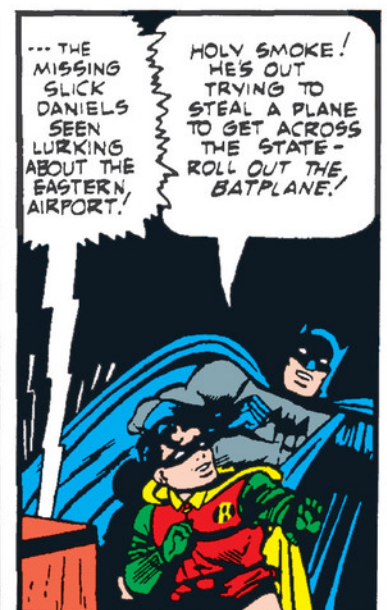
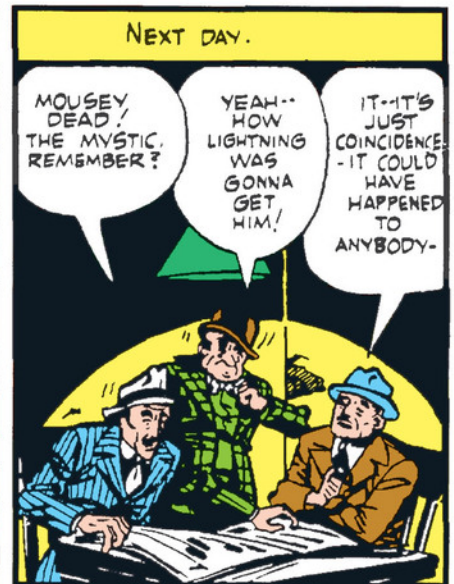
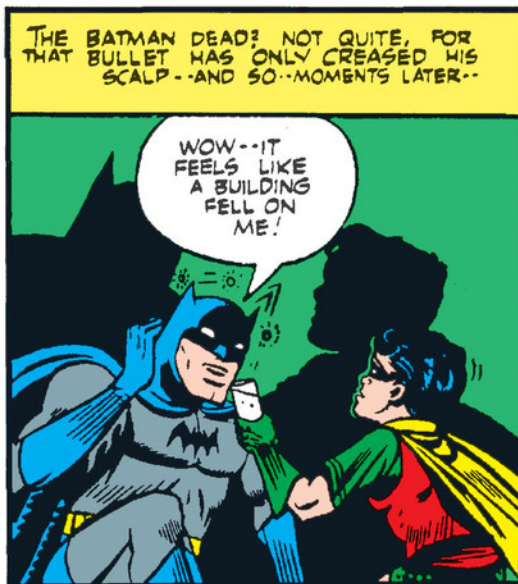
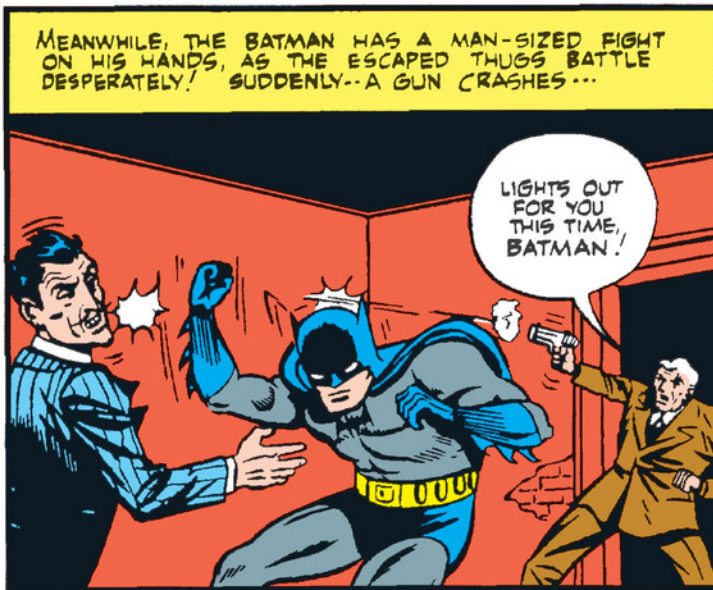
BOUNCING ASHCANS THUNDER DOWN ON THE MURDERERS!

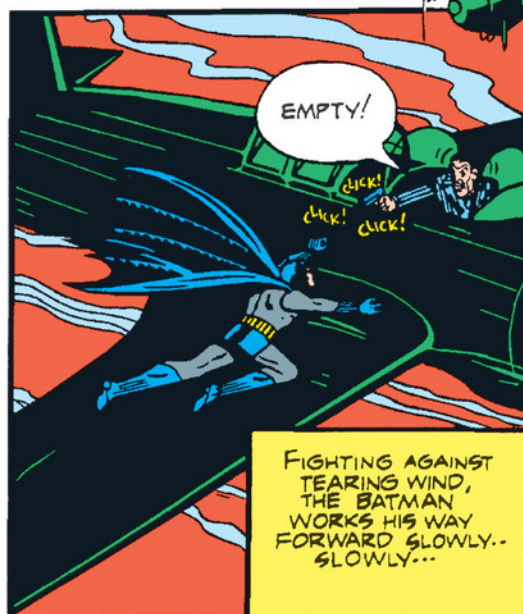
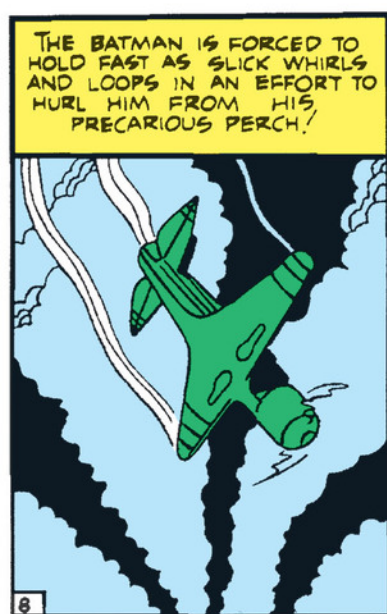
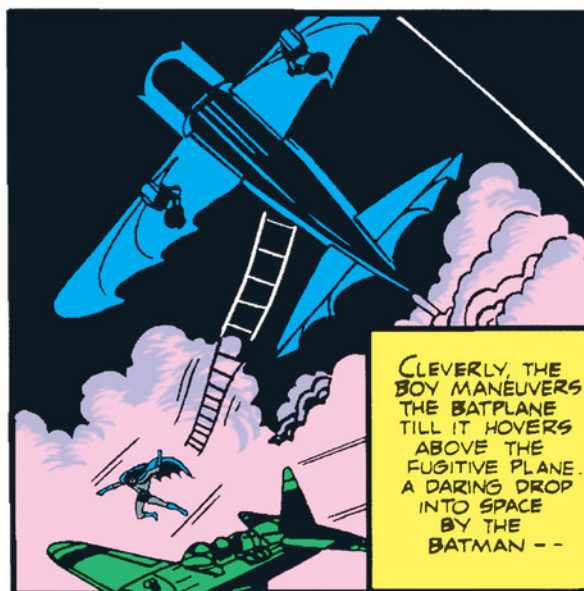
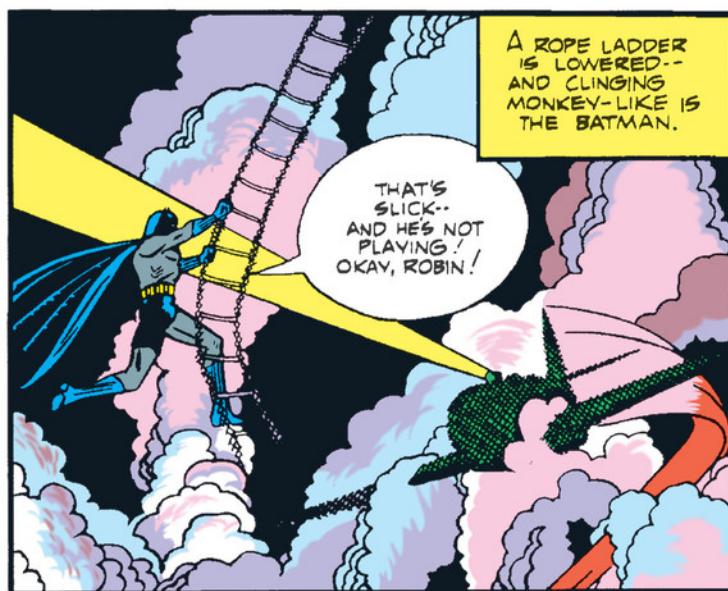
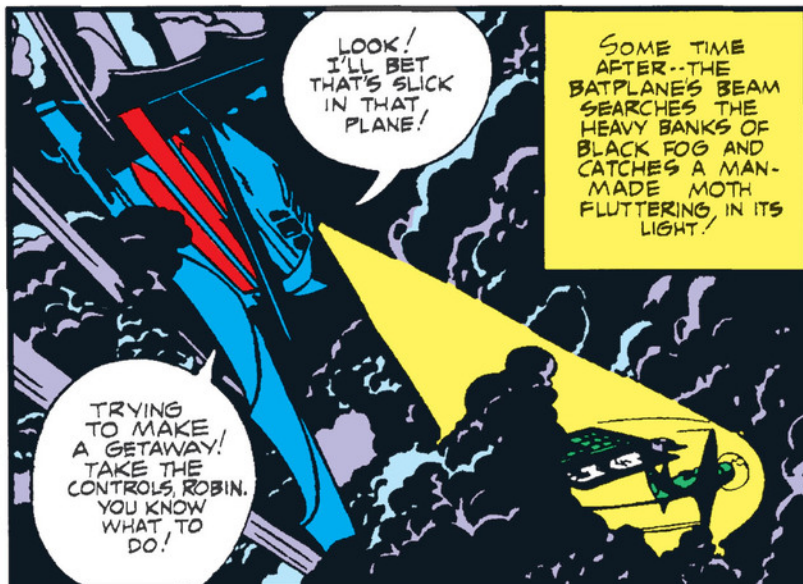
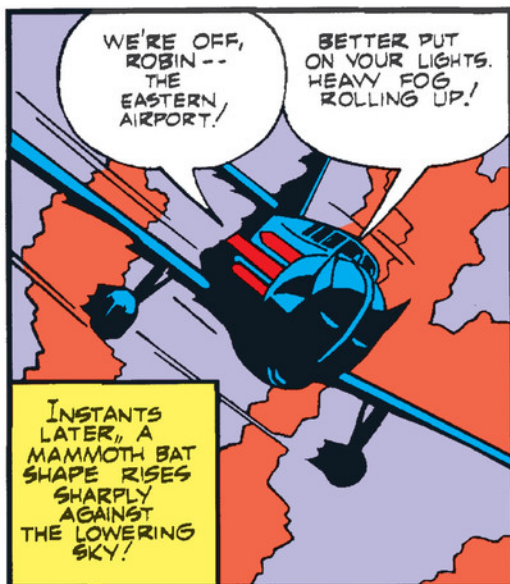
BATMAN THINKS HE'S GOIN' TO KNOCK US OFF OUR FEET WITH THOSE ASHCANS!



WHERE DO YOU THINK THESE ASHCANS ARE GONNA GET YOU AND THAT KID?



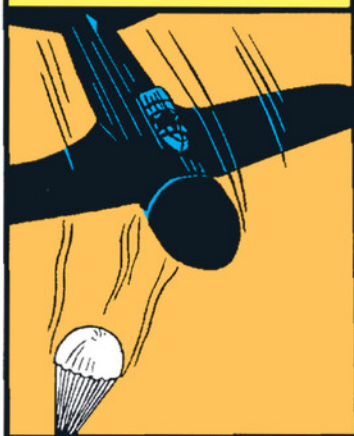




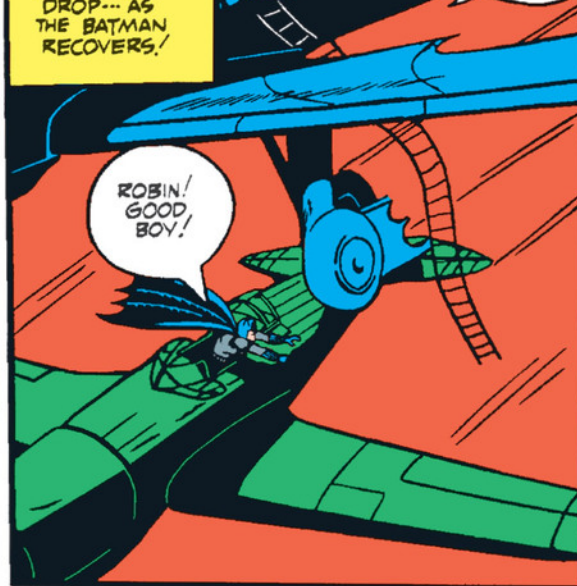
BUT SLICK LIVES UP TO HIS NAME! HIS HAND SNAKES OUT--A FIRE EXTINGUISHER EXTINGUISHES THE FIERY BATMAN--



WRECKING THE CONTROLS, AND LEAVING THE DAZED BATMAN IN THE PLUMMETING PLANE, SLICK JUMPS! FAR BELOW, HIS PARACHUTE BILLOWS OPEN---



BUT EVEN AS THE HELPLESS PLANE PLUNGES DOWNWARD, THE BATPLANE MATCHES ITS BREATHLESS DROP... AS THE BATMAN RECOVERS!



THE ROPE LADDER! GRAB IT!

ROBIN! GOOD BOY!

A LEAP FOR LIFE!



WHERE'S SLICK?

DOWN BELOW! BUT HE'S NOT GOING TO GET AWAY IF I CAN HELP IT!



THE BATPLANE LANDS---BUT SLICK--

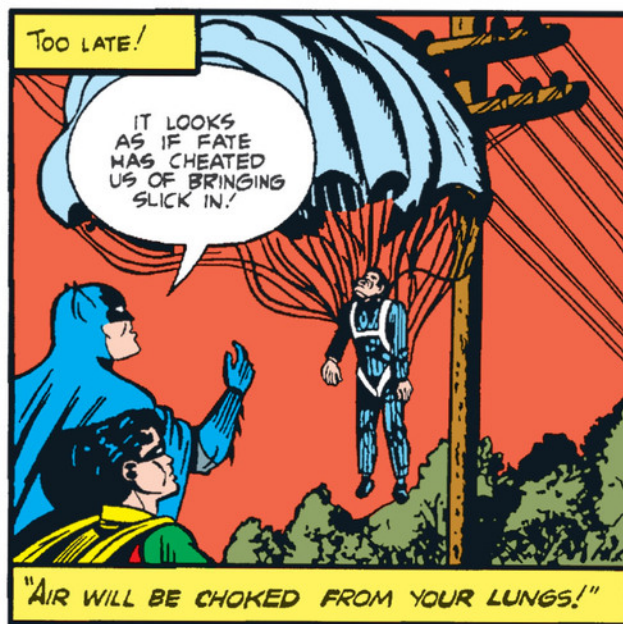
LOOK! HIS PARACHUTE LINES HAVE FOULED ON THE TELEPHONE WIRES AND ARE TANGLED 'ROUND HIS NECK!

IF WE DON'T CUT HIM DOWN IN TIME, HE'LL STRANGLE TO DEATH!



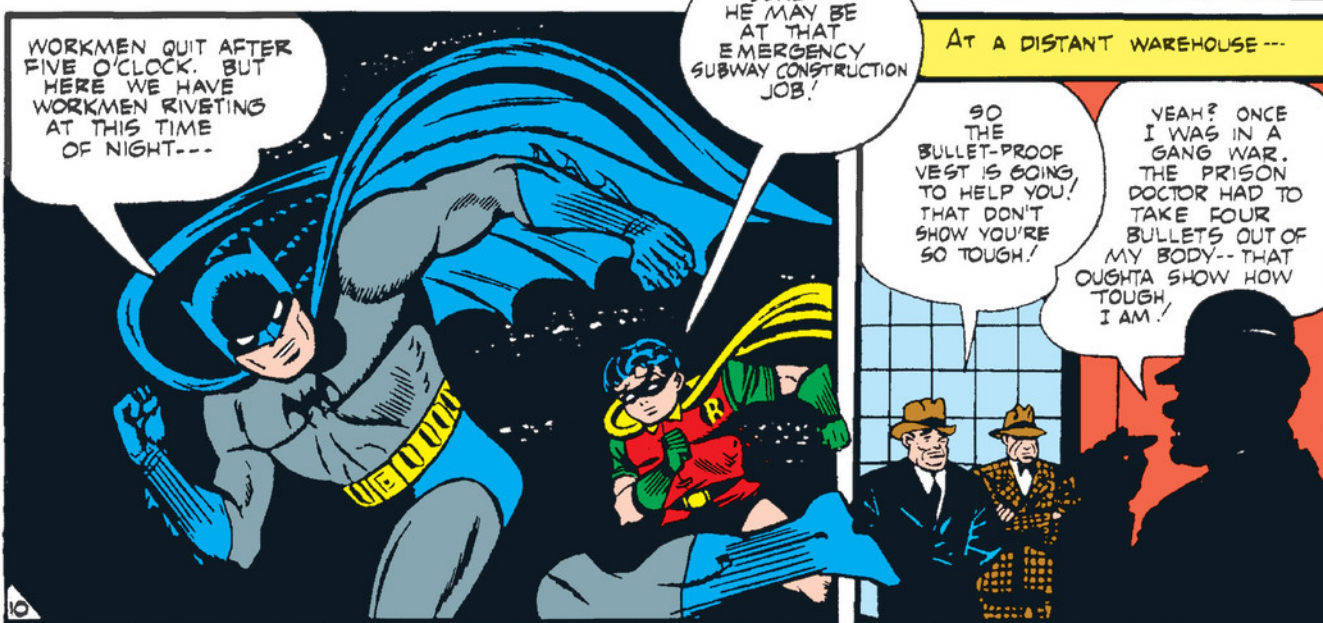
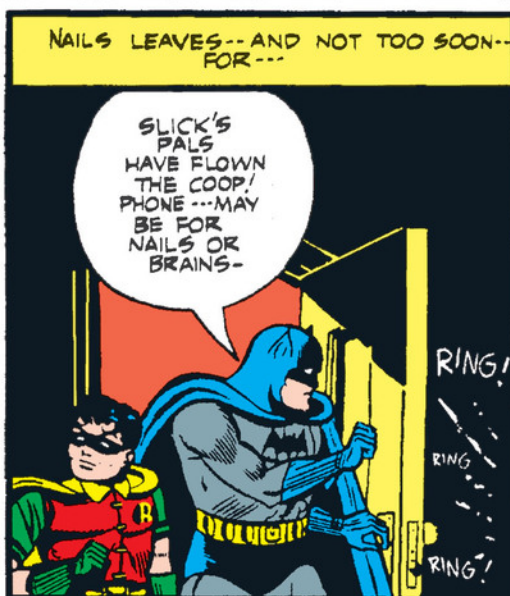
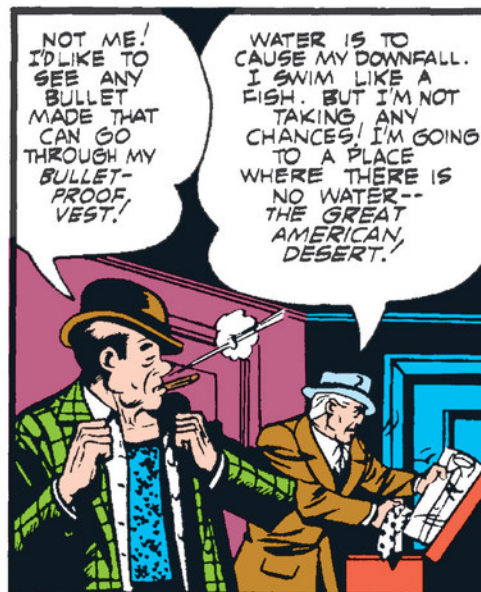
TOO LATE!

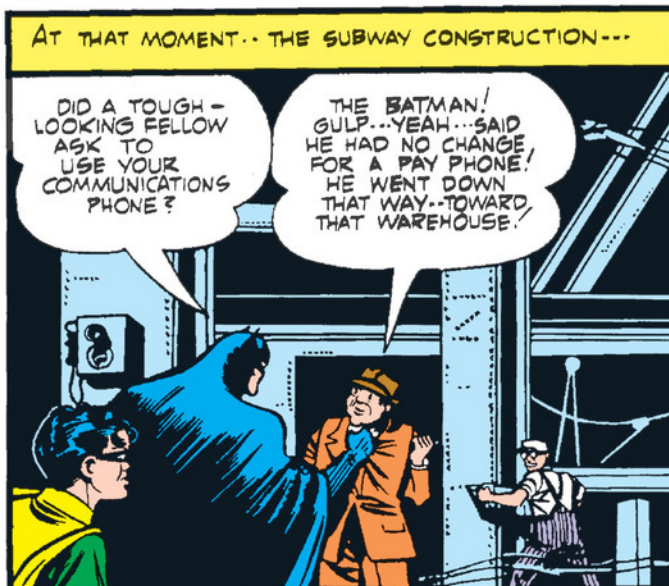
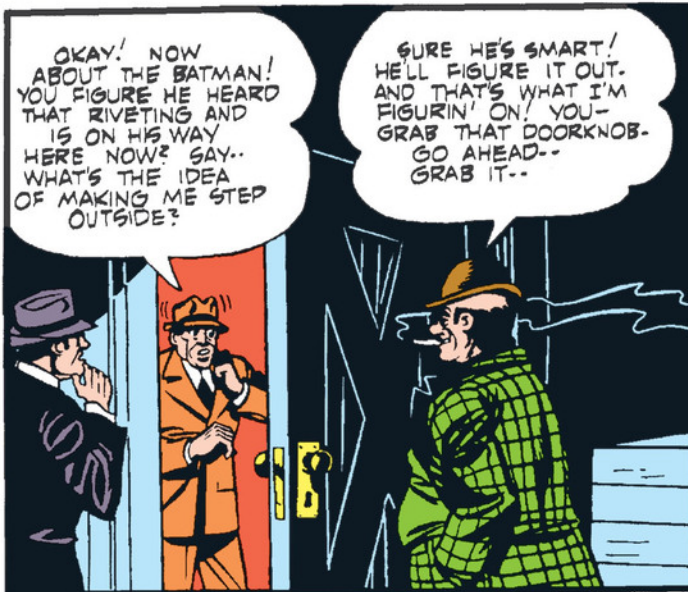
IT LOOKS AS IF FATE HAS CHEATED US OF BRINGING SLICK IN!

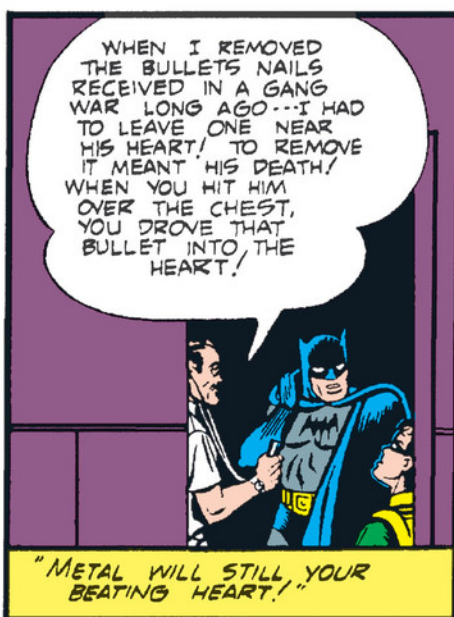
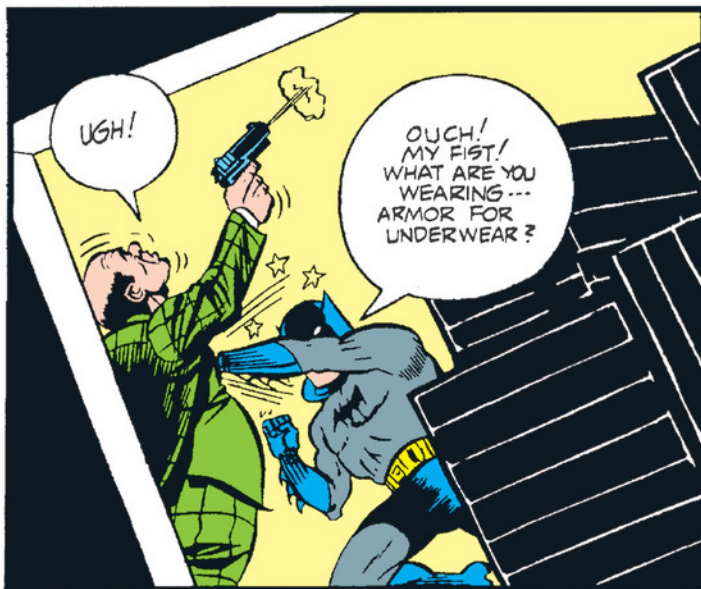
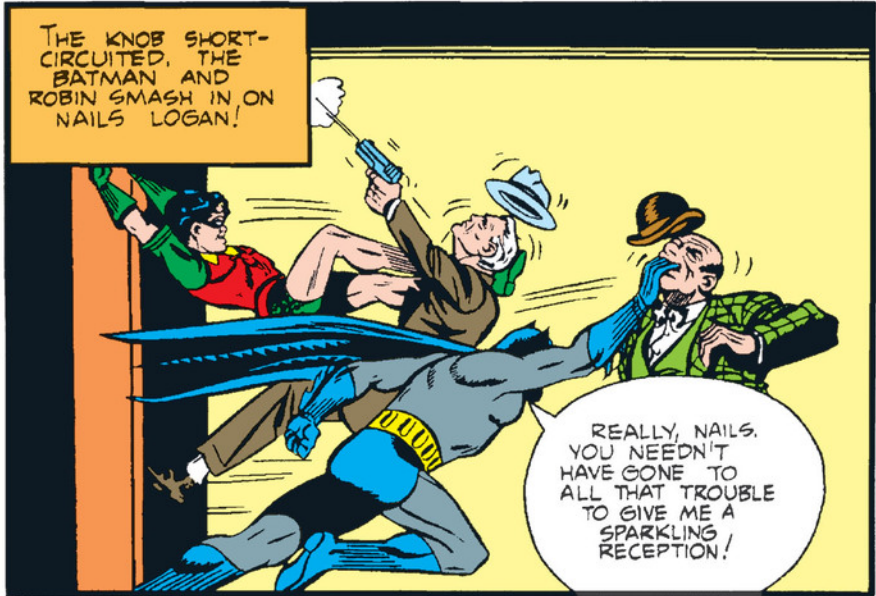


THE SECOND CURSE OF THE FOUR FATES HAS COME TO PASS!

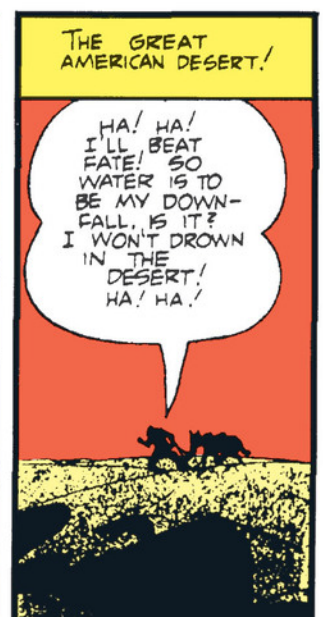
"AIR WILL BE CHOKED FROM YOUR LUNGS!"

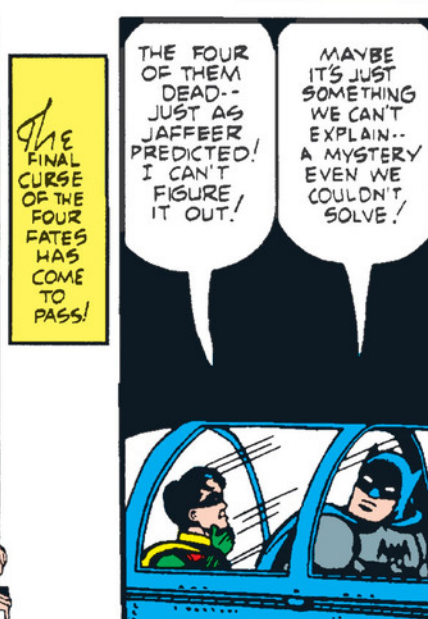
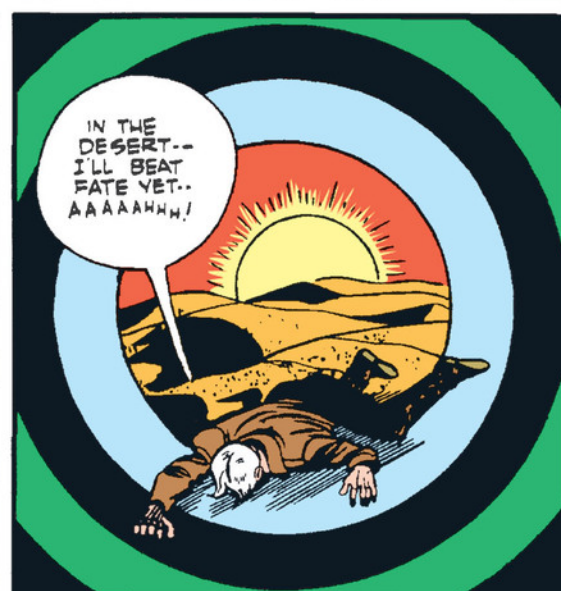
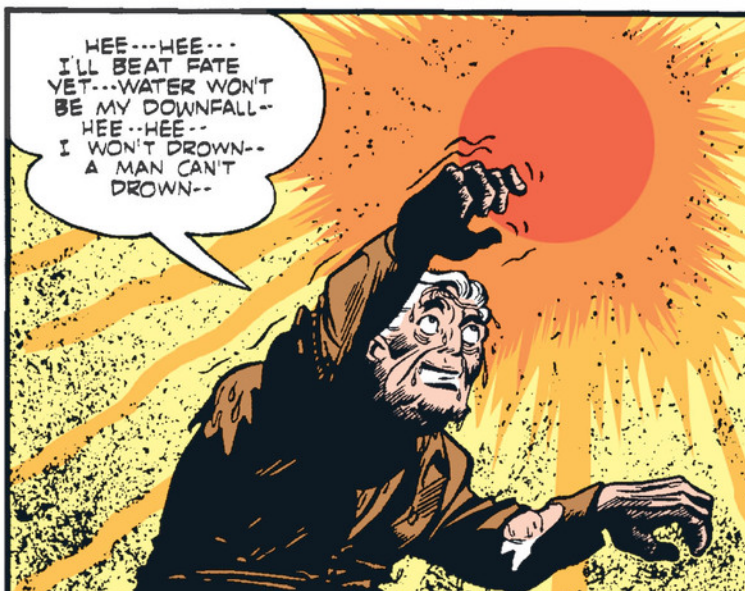
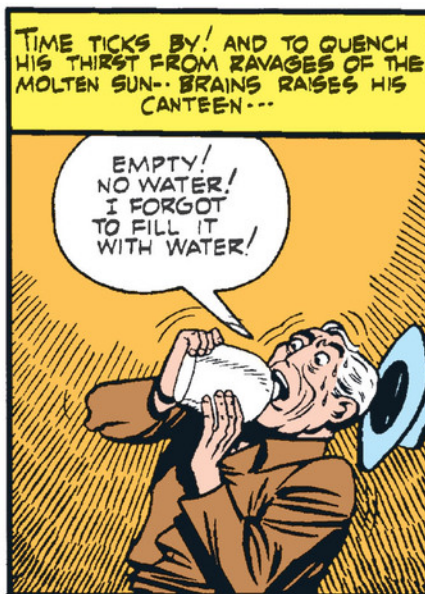
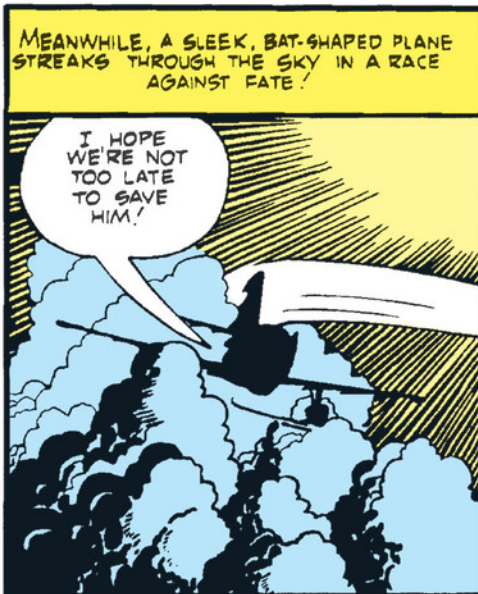






The THIRD CURSE OF THE FOUR FATES HAS COME TO PASS!



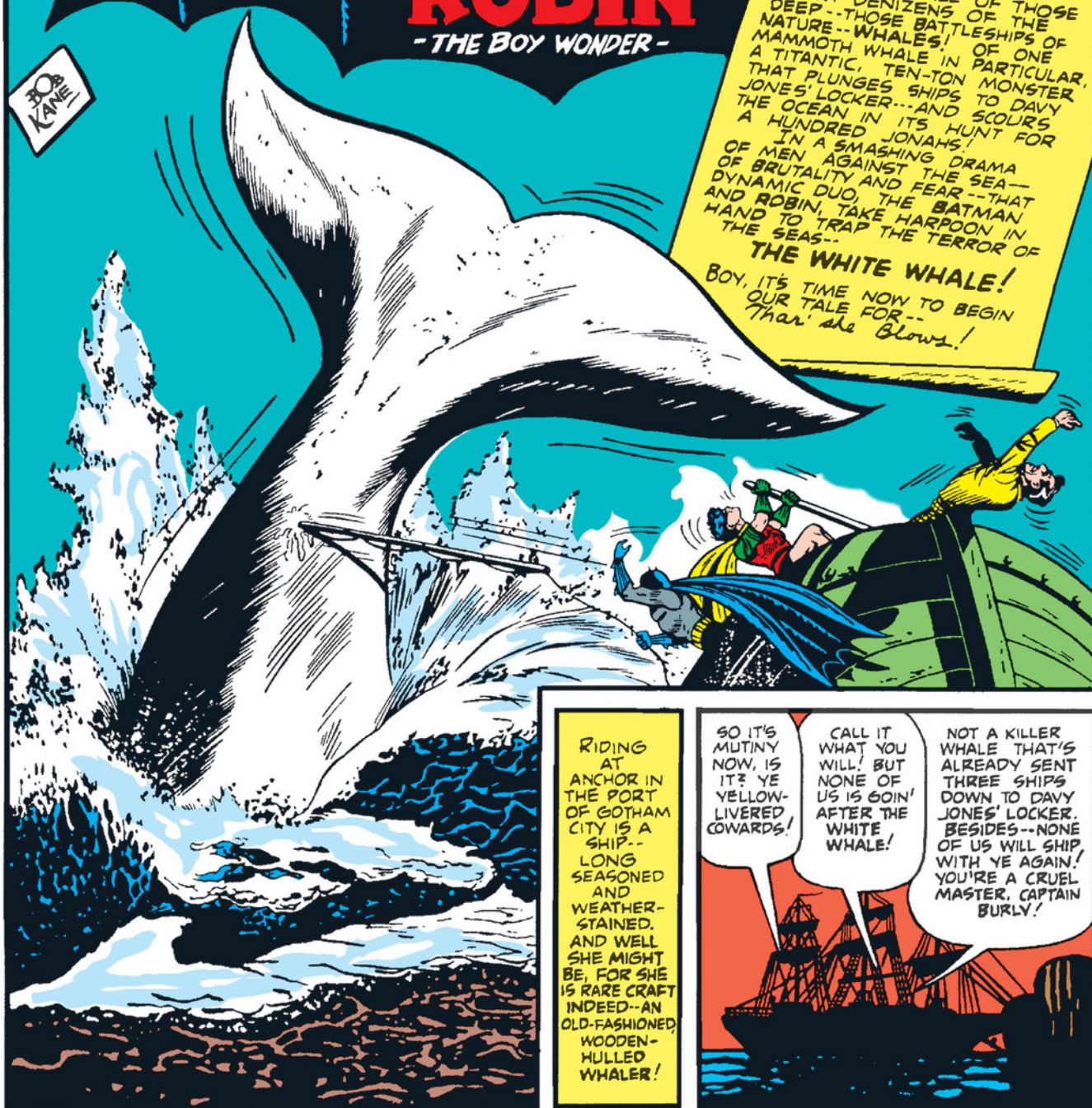


BATMAN

WITH
ROBIN
- THE BOY WONDER -

BOB
KANE

HERE IS A TALE OF THOSE
GIANT DENIZENS OF THE
DEEP--THOSE BATTLESHIPS OF
NATURE--WHALES! OF ONE
MAMMOTH WHALE IN PARTICULAR,
A TITANTIC, TEN-TON MONSTER,
THAT PLUNGES SHIPS TO DAVY
JONES' LOCKER--AND SCOURS
THE OCEAN IN ITS HUNT FOR
A HUNDRED JONAHS!
IN A SMASHING DRAMA
OF BRUTALITY AND FEAR--THAT
DYNAMIC DUO, THE BATMAN
AND ROBIN, TAKE HARPOON IN
HAND TO TRAP THE TERROR OF
THE SEAS--
THE WHITE WHALE!
BOY, IT'S TIME NOW TO BEGIN
OUR TALE FOR--
Thar' she Blows!

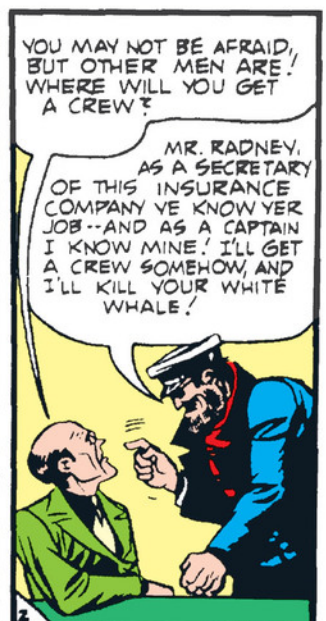
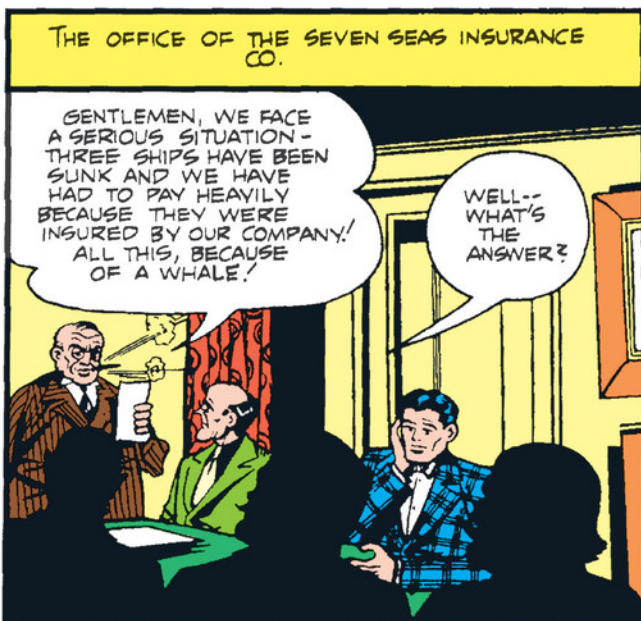
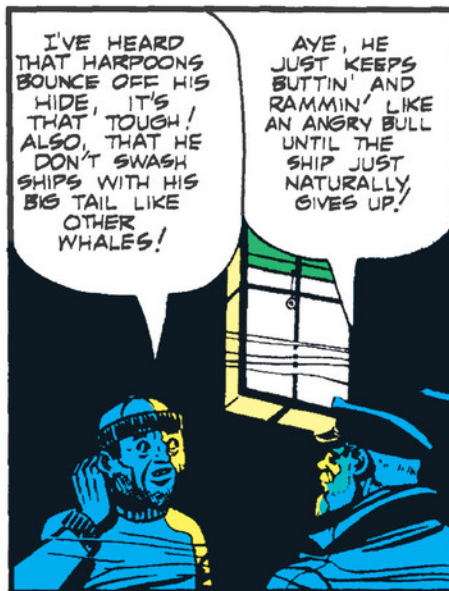
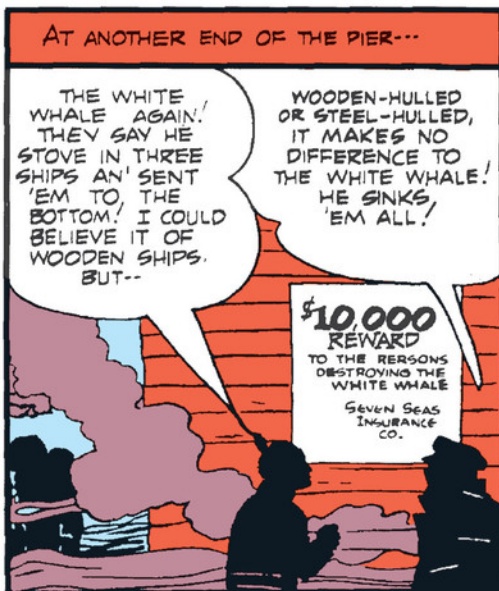
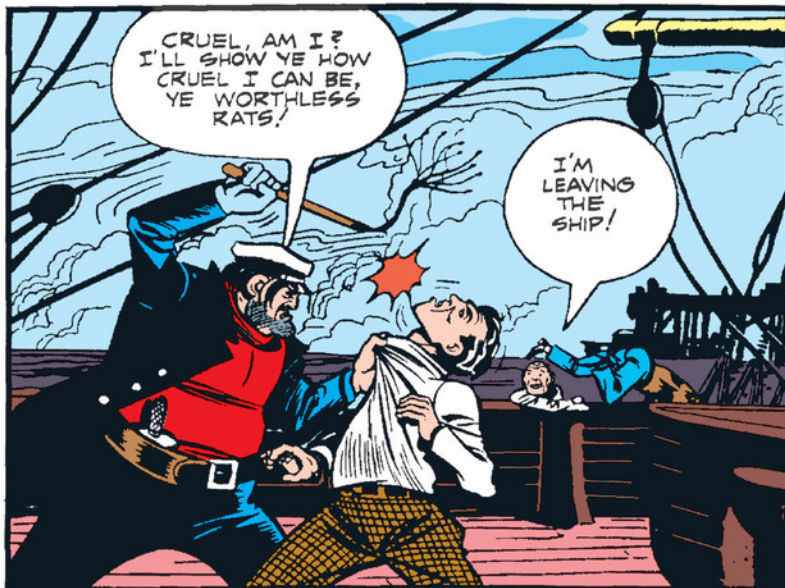


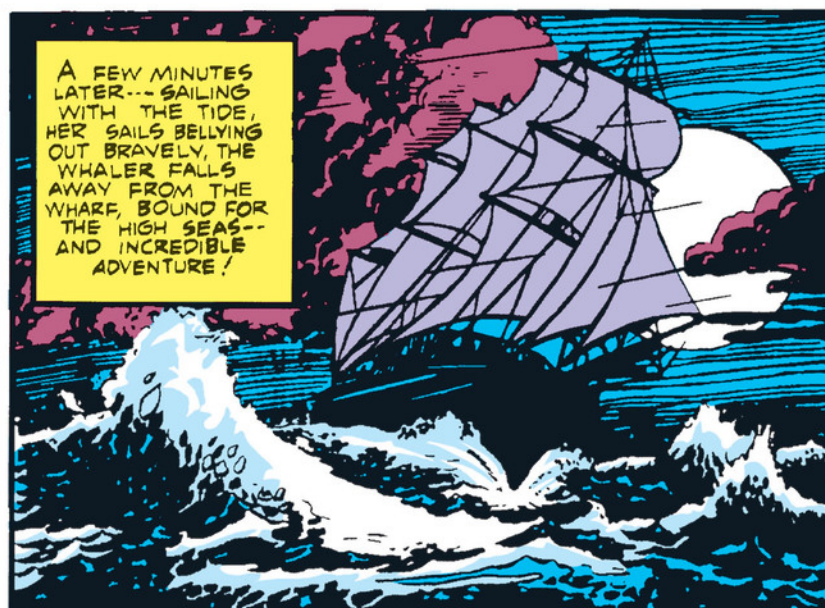
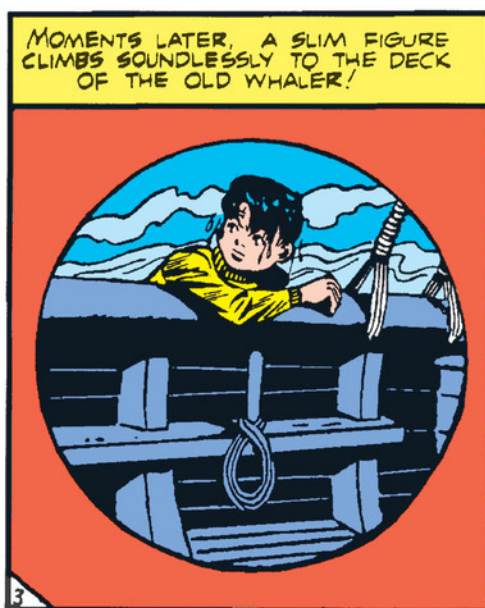
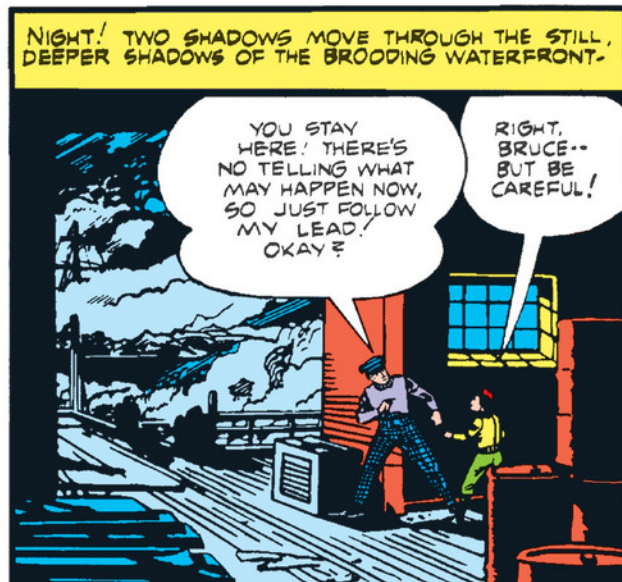
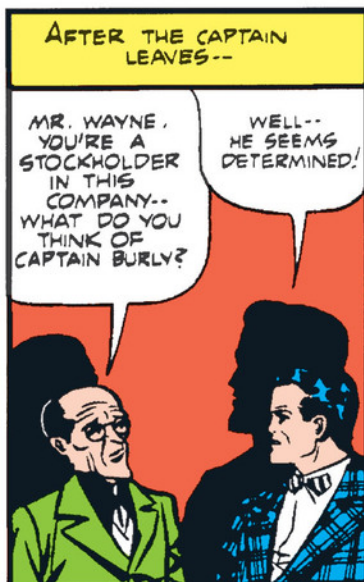
RIDING
AT
ANCHOR IN
THE PORT OF
GOTHAM
CITY IS A
SHIP--
LONG
SEASONED
AND
WEATHER-
STAINED.
AND WELL
SHE MIGHT
BE, FOR SHE
IS RARE CRAFT
INDEED--AN
OLD-FASHIONED,
WOODEN-
HULLED
WHALER!

SO IT'S
MUTINY
NOW, IS
IT? YE
YELLOW-
LIVERED
COWARDS!

CALL IT
WHAT YOU
WILL! BUT
NONE OF
US IS GOIN'
AFTER THE
WHITE
WHALE!

NOT A KILLER
WHALE THAT'S
ALREADY SENT
THREE SHIPS
DOWN TO DAVY
JONES' LOCKER.
BESIDES--NONE
OF US WILL SHIP
WITH YE AGAIN!
YOU'RE A CRUEL
MASTER, CAPTAIN
BURLY!





LATER -- IN THE HOLD ----

SOMEBODY
STOP THAT
FLOOR FROM
SPINNING
AROUND!
OOOHHH!
DICK! WHERE
ARE WE?

ON THE
WHALE.
BROTHER--
YOU'VE BEEN
SHANGHAIED!

SHANGHAIED--
SO THIS IS HOW CAPTAIN
BURLY COLLECTED HIS
CREW! OH! OH!
SOMEONE'S REGAINING
CONSCIOUSNESS!

BETTER IF I'M
A SORT OF SECRET
ROUND HERE! I'LL
HIDE IN THAT
EMPTY OIL
BARREL!

MORNING-- AND THE MOTLEY
CREW IS ASSEMBLED ON DECK--TO
FACE CAPTAIN BURLY!

STOP YER SNIVELIN'--
ALL OF YE! I'M THE
MASTER HERE! LIKE
IT OR NOT, YER THE
CREW OF MY SHIP--AN'
WE'RE GOING AFTER
THE WHITE WHALE!

WOTS
TH' IDEA
O' SHANGHAING
US,
CAPN?

PLEASE
TAKE ME BACK
HOME. I'LL
LOSE MY
JOB!

I'M NOT--
UGH!

UGH!

EASY,
LAD!
HE'S A
BAD
MAN!

BRASS
KNUCKLES!
THE
ROTTEN--

I'LL SOON TEACH
YE THAT MY WORD
IS LAW ABOARD THIS
CRAFT!

USING THE NAME "JACK TAR", BRUCE
ASSUMES THE ROLE OF A SEAMAN
WHILE DICK STOWS AWAY IN THE
HOLD!

UP YE GO,
YE LANDLUBBER--
LIVELY NOW, OR
I'LL TAKE A
CLUB TO
YE!

THEN ---ONE NIGHT--

THAT MAN
IS WORKING
US TO DEATH!
HE'S A
TYRANT! I
THINK IT'S
TIME THE
BATMAN PUT
IN HIS
APPEARANCE!

AND DON'T
FORGET
ROBIN! BUT
HOW CAN YOU
DO IT
WITHOUT
AROUSING
SUSPICION
UPON
"JACK TAR"?

THE NEXT MORNING---

MAN
OVERBOARD!
IT'S JACK
TAR! MAN
OVER-
BOARD!

SOMETIME LATER...

THAT JACK TAR SUNK LIKE A LOG!

NOT A TRACE OF HIM! SHALL WE SEARCH SOME MORE, CAP'N?

WE'RE SEARCHIN' FOR WHALES, NOT FOR MEN-- WE'RE GETTIN' FULL SAIL AHEAD!

BUT DOWN IN THE HOLD, "JACK TAR" IS VERY MUCH ALIVE.

NICE STUNT, THAT-- THROWING A RIGGED-UP DUMMY OVER-BOARD!

SAY-- SOMETHING'S UP!

I'LL TEACH YE TO SPLASH WATER OVER MY FEET---

SPREAD-EAGLED! AND HE'S GOING TO LACE INTO HIM WITH THE CAT-O'-NINE-TAILS!

THINK SO? I DON'T! INTO YOUR WORK CLOTHES, BOY!

A QUICK DISCARD OF OUTER CLOTHING--AND TWO CAPED FIGURES CHARGE TO THE DECK--

I'LL TAKE THIS--AND YOU TAKE THIS!

THAT'S THE BATMAN AND ROBIN!

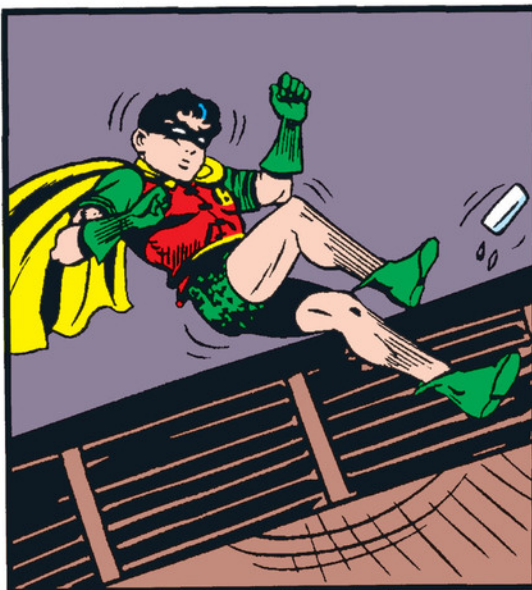
WH-AT? ON MY SHIP? THEY MUST HAVE STOWED AWAY! I'LL SHOW 'EM HOW I TREAT SNOOPERS!

HOW'RE YOU DOING, ROBIN?

I'M GETTING ALONG!

UH--UH! ATTACK FROM THE REAR-- HAVE TO STOP IT--

BUT EAGER ROBIN HAS NO EYES FOR THE SOAP UNDERFOOT, AND---



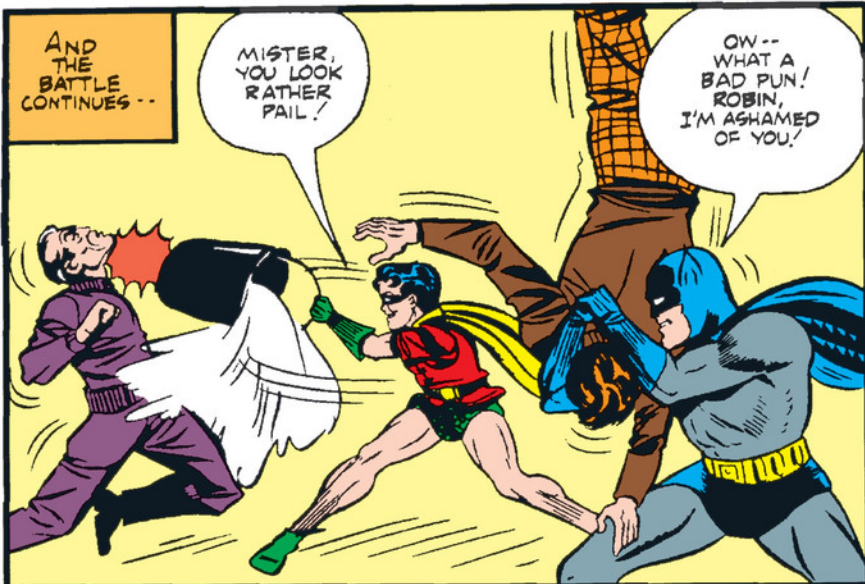
GLU--MMM..



AND THE BATTLE CONTINUES --

MISTER, YOU LOOK RATHER PALE!

OW-- WHAT A BAD PUN! ROBIN, I'M ASHAMED OF YOU!



THEN ALL FREEZE STOCK-STILL AS A LOUD CRY IS HEARD ---

THAR SHE BLOWS! A WHALE... A WHALE!



IN THE DISTANCE, A THIN, CRESTED SPOUT OF VAPOR RISES INTO THE AIR, INDICATING A BLOWING WHALE.



INTO THE BOAT WITH YE! YOU'RE GOIN' A-WHALIN' THIS DAY! WE'LL SETTLE OUR DIFFERENCES LATER!



TRUE WHALERS, THE SEAMEN FORGET THEIR QUARRELS AS AN EXCITING WHALE HUNT LOOMS AHEAD!

① THE CHASE IS ON! THRASHING OARS SEND BOATS HISSING THROUGH THE WAVES.

HEAVE! HEAVE! BLAST YE! PULL UNTIL YE BREAK THE OARS! IF YE CAN'T BREAK 'EM, BREAK YER BACKS! HEAVE, HEAVE!

② AND LO! A MAMMOTH, TERRIFYING MONSTER OF THE DEEP CHARGES AT A LUCKLESS BOAT -- ITS CAVERNOUS JAWS WIDE OPEN--

STERN ALL--OR WE'RE LOST!

③ ONE HORRIFYING MOMENT AS THE PONDEROUS JAWS SNAP SHUT, AND THE BOW OF THE BOAT CRUMPLES INTO SPLINTERS!

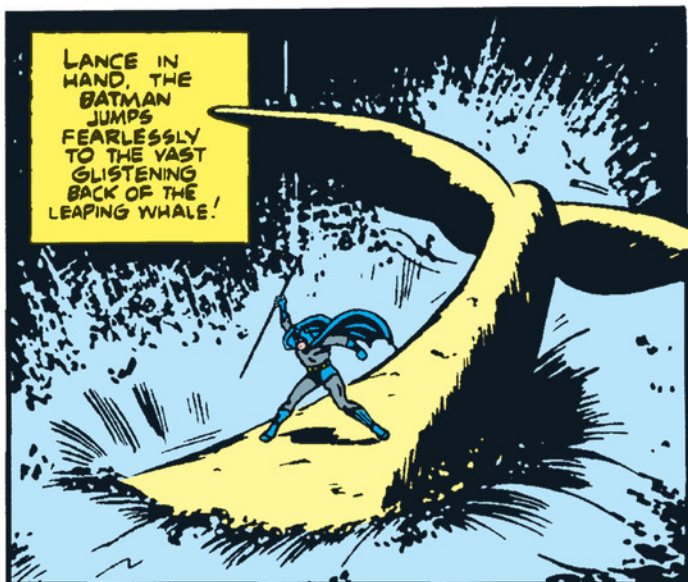
④ THEN UNEXPECTEDLY, THE ANGRY WHALE TURNS ON ANOTHER BOAT. THE FLUKES OF ITS VAST TAIL SWEEP ROBIN AND THE HARPOONER, INTO THE CHURNING WATERS!

⑤ THE TREMENDOUS TAIL LASHES THE OCEAN INTO FOAM--THREATENING AT ANY MOMENT TO SMASH ROBIN AND THE HARPOONER!

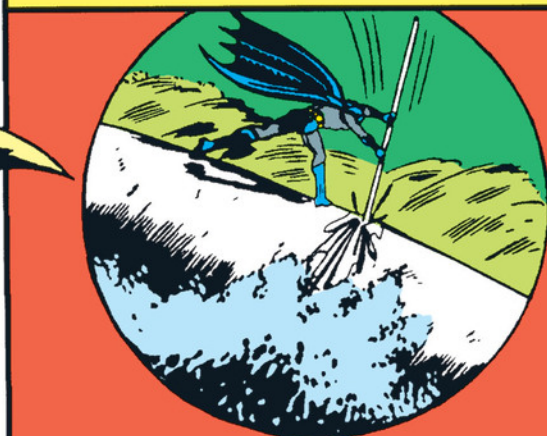
NOT A SECOND TO LOSE! THAT HARPOON!

⑥ BRACING HIMSELF ON THE BUCKING BOAT, THE BATMAN DRIVES THE HARPOON DEEP INTO THE WHALE'S MONSTROUS BULK!

LANCE IN HAND, THE BATMAN JUMPS FEARLESSLY TO THE VAST GLISTENING BACK OF THE LEAPING WHALE!



THE LANCE FLASHES IN THE SUN FOR AN INSTANT AND THEN HISSES DOWN LIKE A STREAK OF WHITE FLAME!

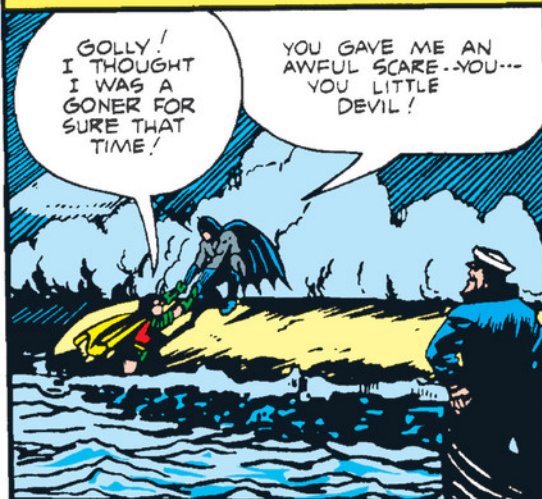


AND PLUNGES DEEP INTO THE SEA BEAST WHO STARTS TO ROLL OVER ON ITS SIDE!



IT'S ALL OVER NOW... WHEW!

THE BATMAN'S FIRST THOUGHT IS OF HIS PAL, ROBIN-



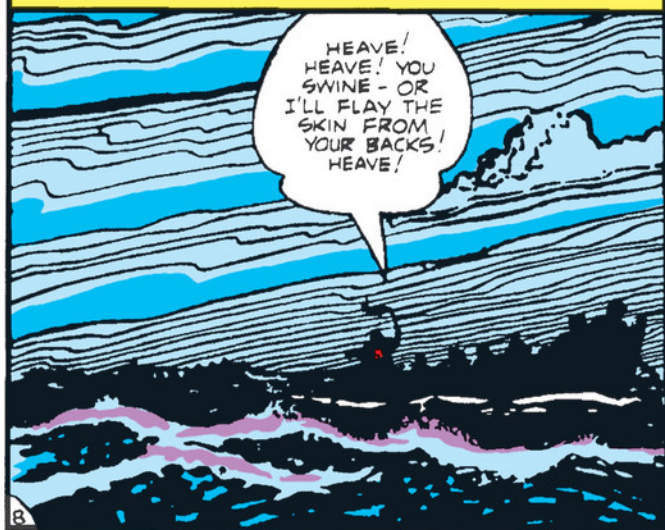
GOLLY! I THOUGHT I WAS A GONER FOR SURE THAT TIME!

YOU GAVE ME AN AWFUL SCARE--YOU-- YOU LITTLE DEVIL!

CUT OUT THE SENTIMENTAL ACT, YOU TWO--OR YOU'LL HAVE ME IN TEARS IN A MINUTE! GET TO WORK WITH THE REST OF THE CREW!



THE HUGE WHALE IS THEN TIRELESSLY TOWED BACK TO THE VESSEL---

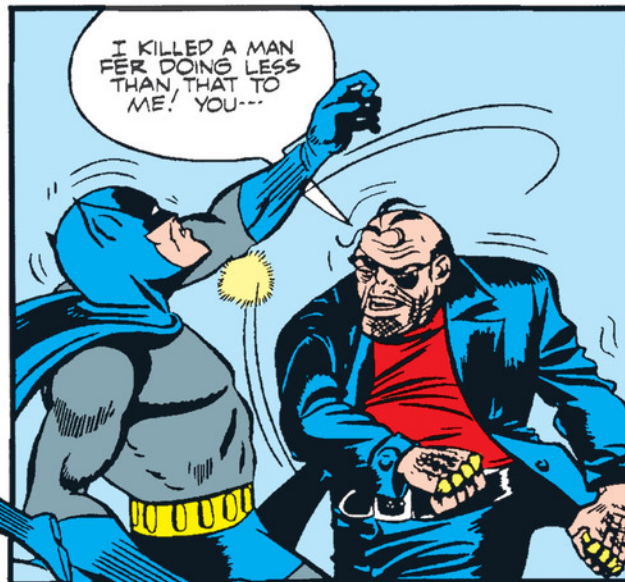
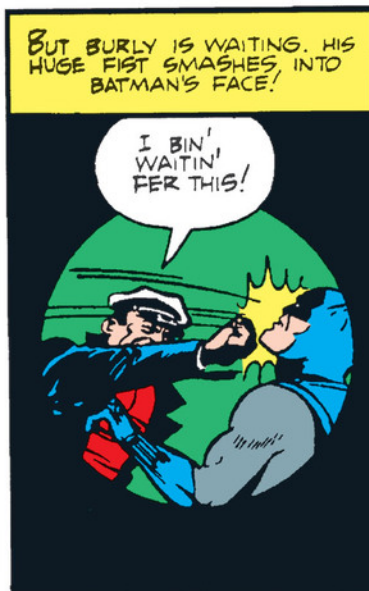
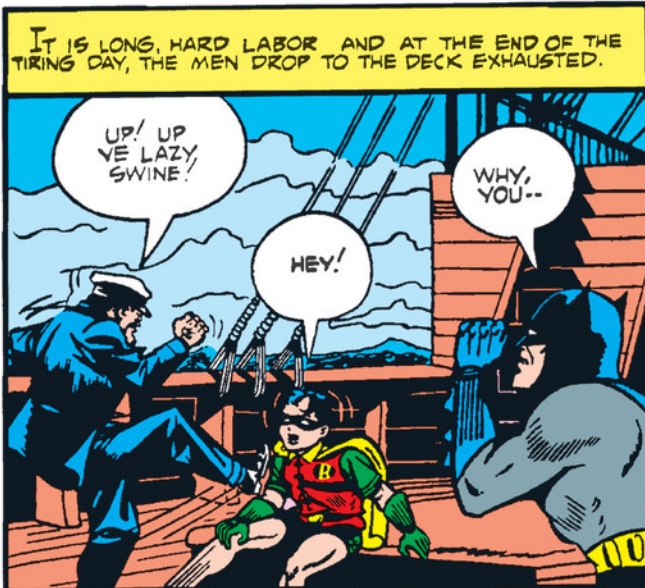


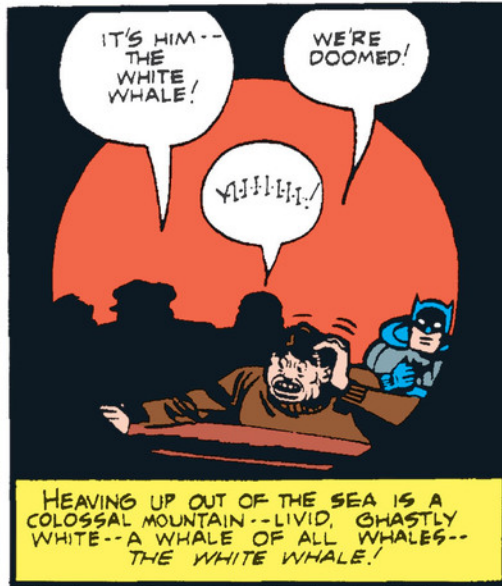
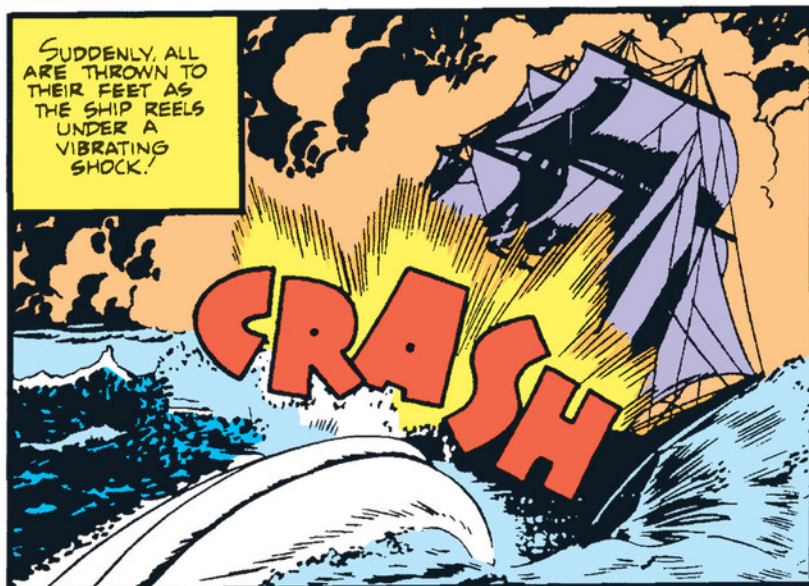
HEAVE! HEAVE! YOU SWINE - OR I'LL FLAY THE SKIN FROM YOUR BACKS! HEAVE!

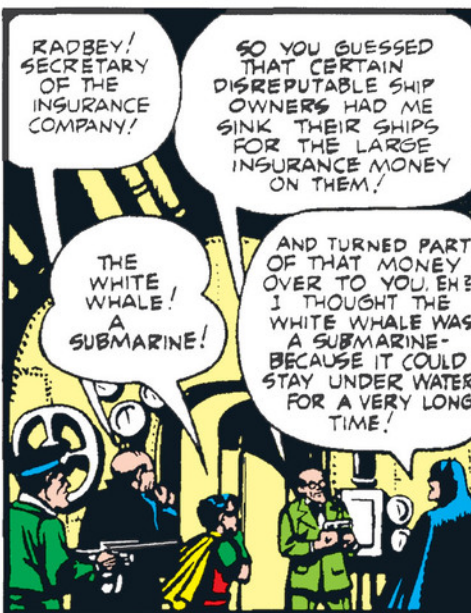
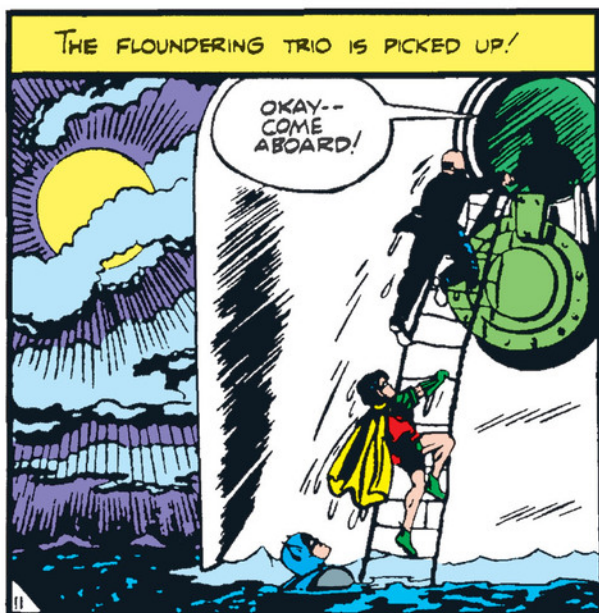
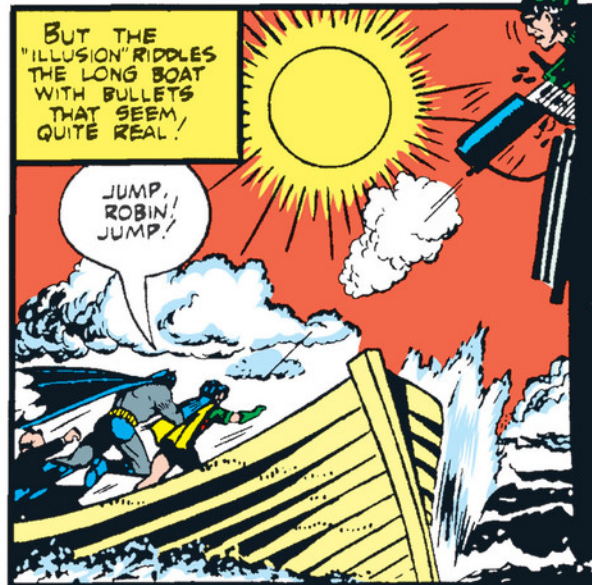
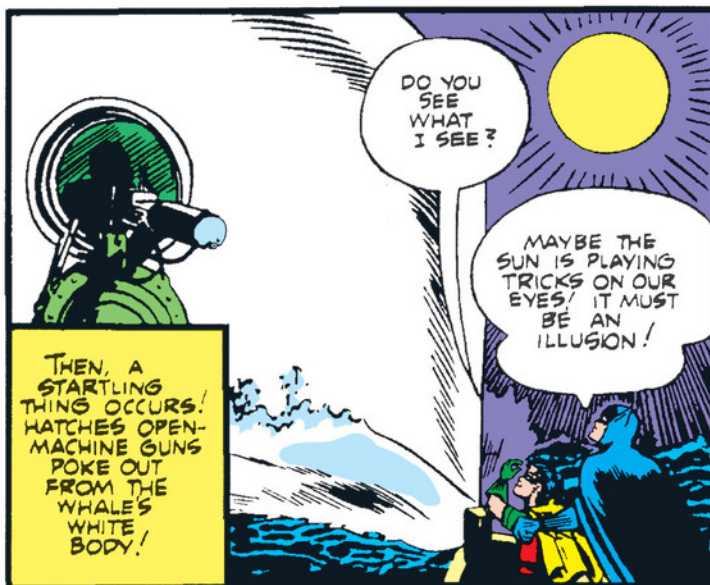
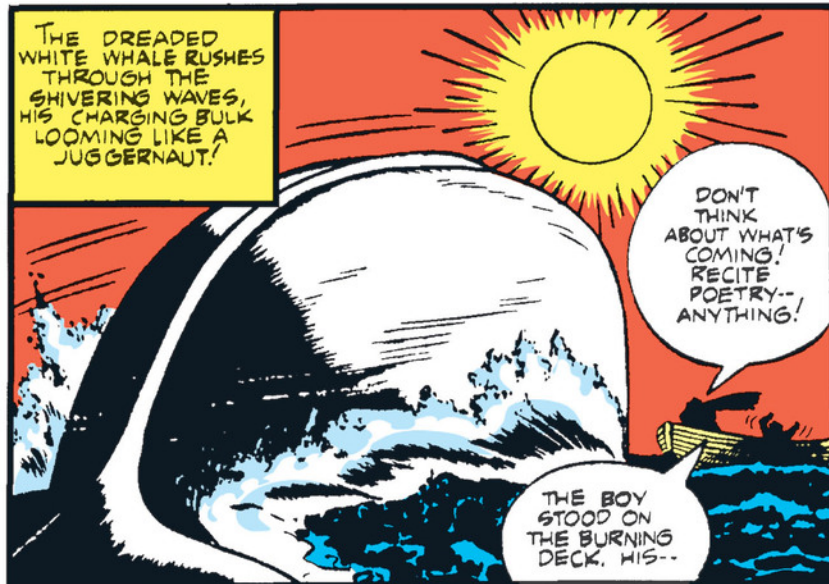
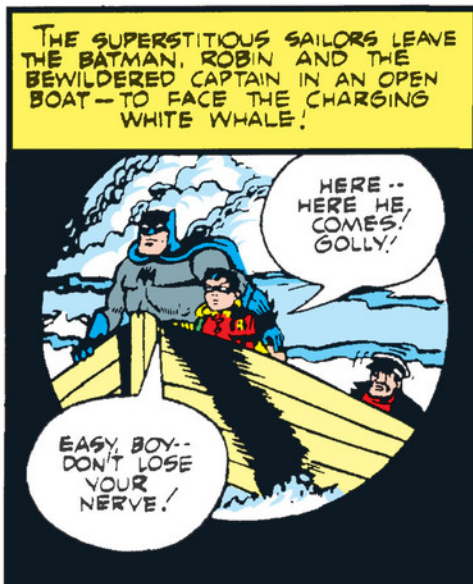
THE CUTTING-IN BEGINS! WITH LONG SPADES THE SEAMEN PEEL OFF THE THICK BLANKET OF BLUBBER AND HOIST IT TO THE DECK WHERE IT IS "MINCED" OR SLICED INTO SMALL PIECES--

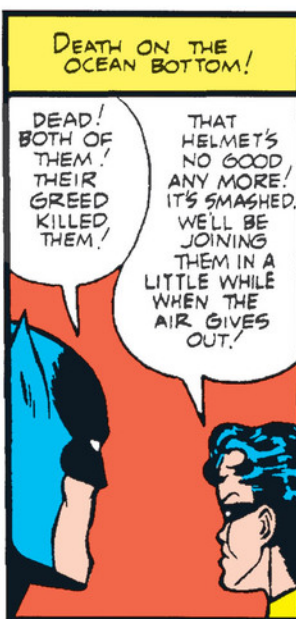
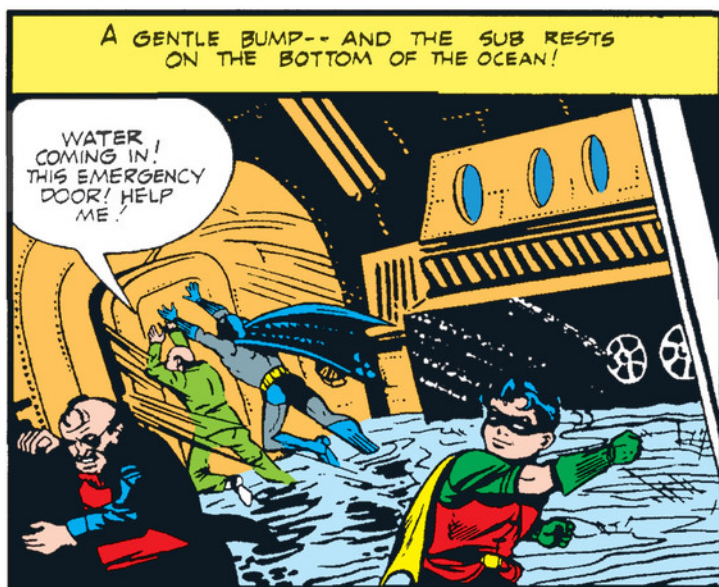
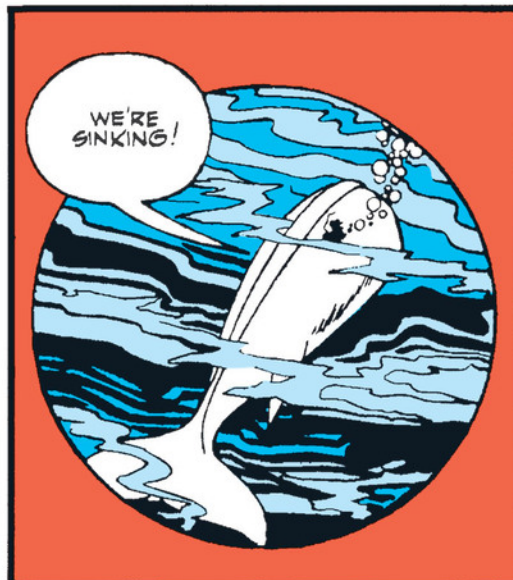


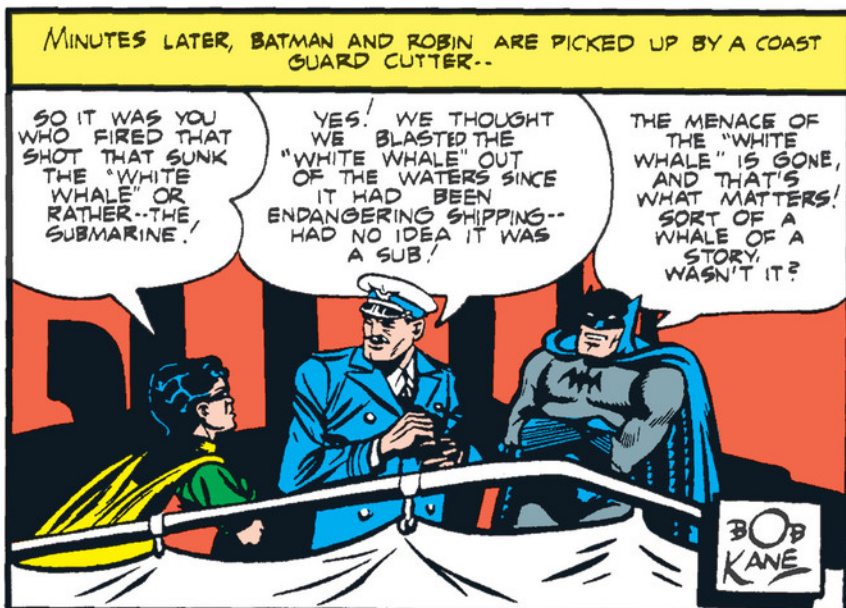
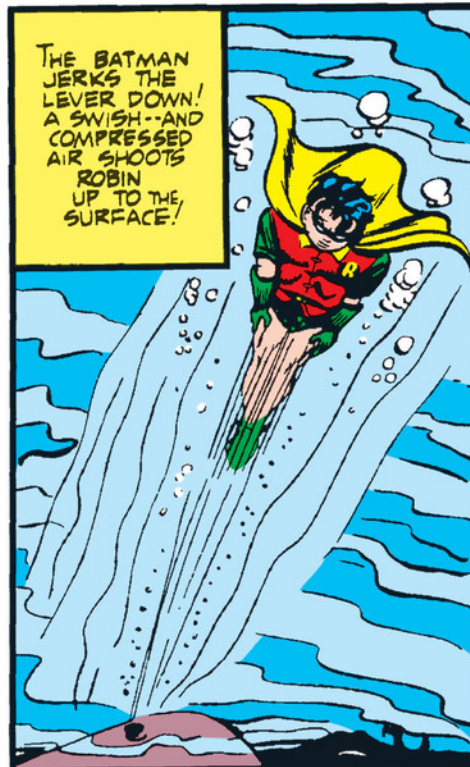
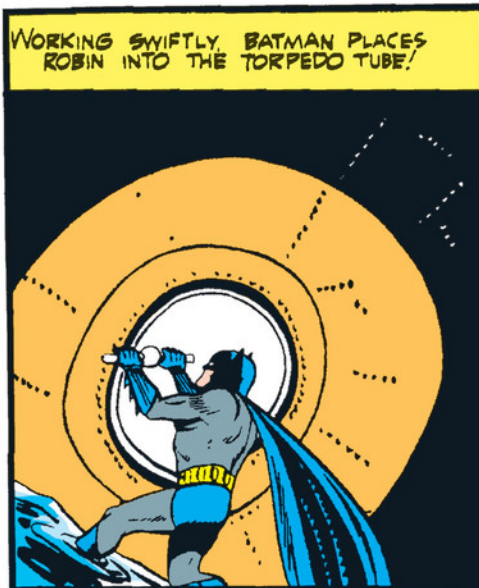
--AND THEN DUMPED INTO HUGE TRYPOTS, WHERE THE OIL IS BOILED FROM THE BLUBBER!





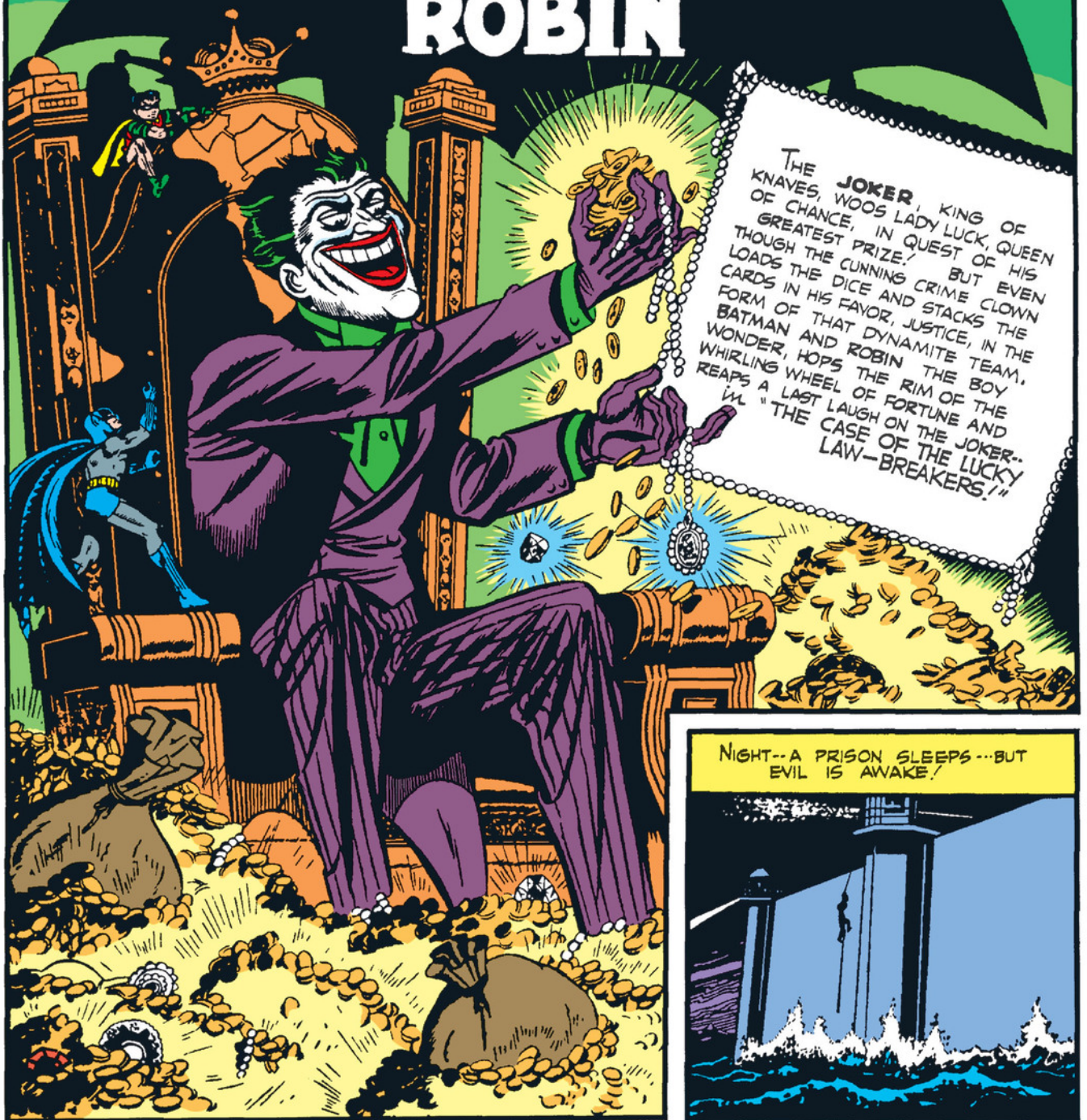


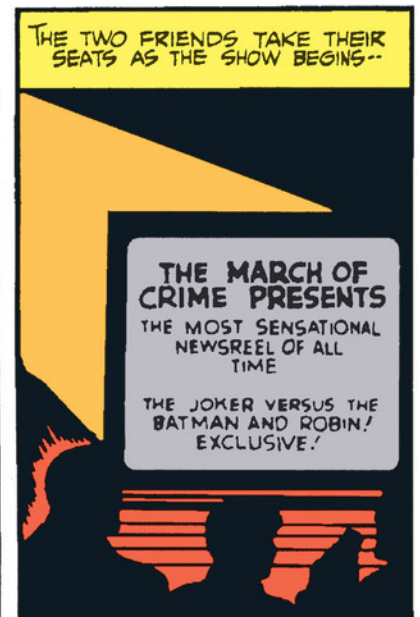
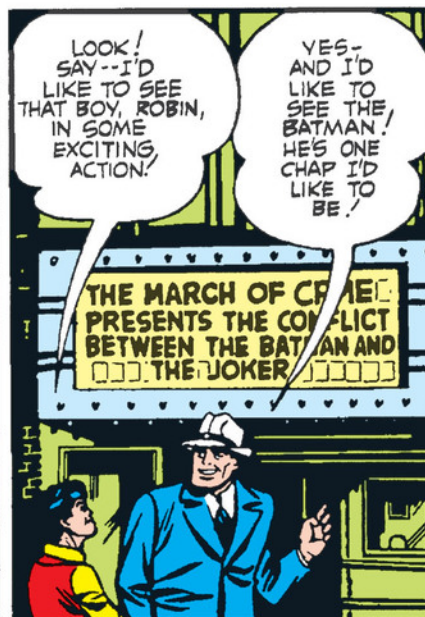
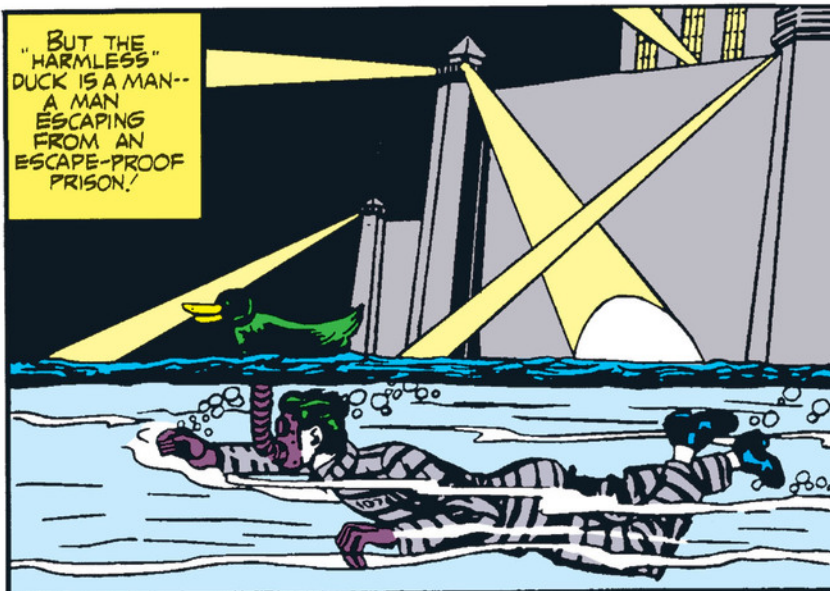
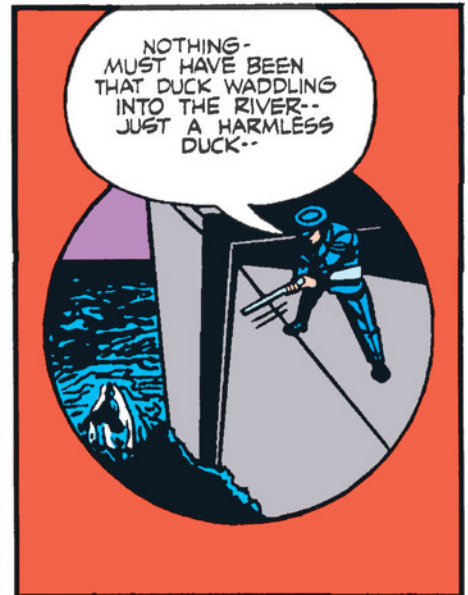
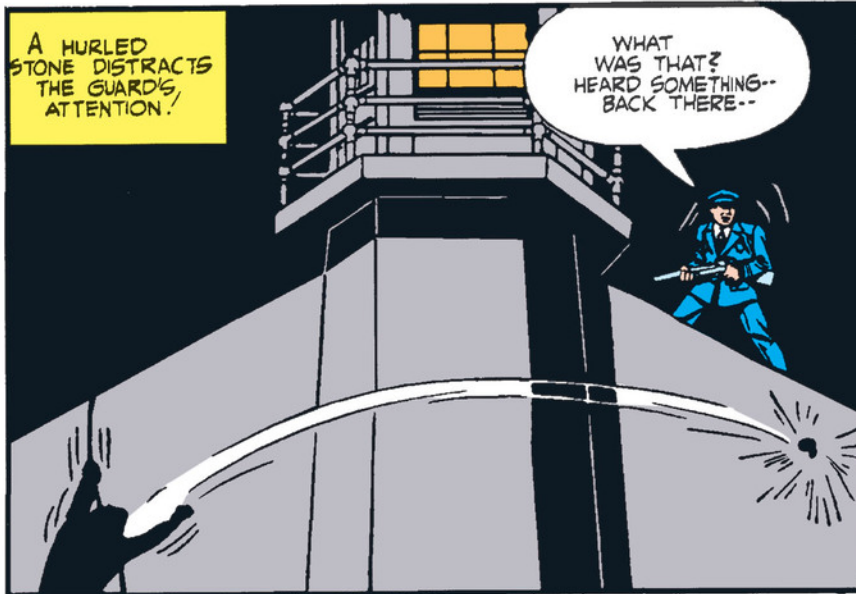




BATMAN

WITH
ROBIN





"HERE IS A STORY TAKEN FROM THE PAGES OF CRIME, A STORY THAT BEGAN WHEN THE MOCKING JOKER FIRST CROSSED THE TRAIL OF THE BATMAN AND ROBIN- AND THUS BEGAN THE BATTLE OF THE CENTURY."

"HERE WE SEE THE JOKER, AFTER HE ACCIDENTALLY STABBED HIMSELF IN A SCUFFLE WITH THE BATMAN. HE LIVED TO PLOT MORE VILLAINY!"



"AT GREAT RISK OF LIFE A NEWSREEL MAN SHOT THIS SCENE ATOP A SPEEDING TRAIN!"

"AN AMATEUR CAMERAMAN SECURED THIS EXCITING PICTURE OF THE JOKER IN ACTION."



"BUT THE TRAIL OF CRIME ALWAYS LEADS TO PRISON, AS THE JOKER WAS TO FIND OUT!"

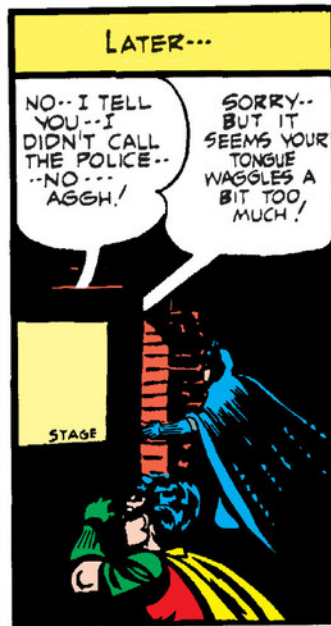
"OUR THANKS GO TO THE BATMAN AND ROBIN FOR THE FINAL CAPTURE OF A MASTER CRIMINAL."



FUNNY, I NEVER REALIZED BEFORE, HOW PHOTOGENIC YOU ARE!

AND YOU-- YOU'LL BE MAKING CLARK GABLE LOOK TO HIS LAURELS!





A SLASHING KICK DISPOSES OF THE DEADLY BLOW GUN!



YOU FORGET YOU'RE DEALING WITH THE JOKER!



ON THE CONTRARY, I'M VERY MUCH AWARE OF IT, YOU GRINNING DEVIL!



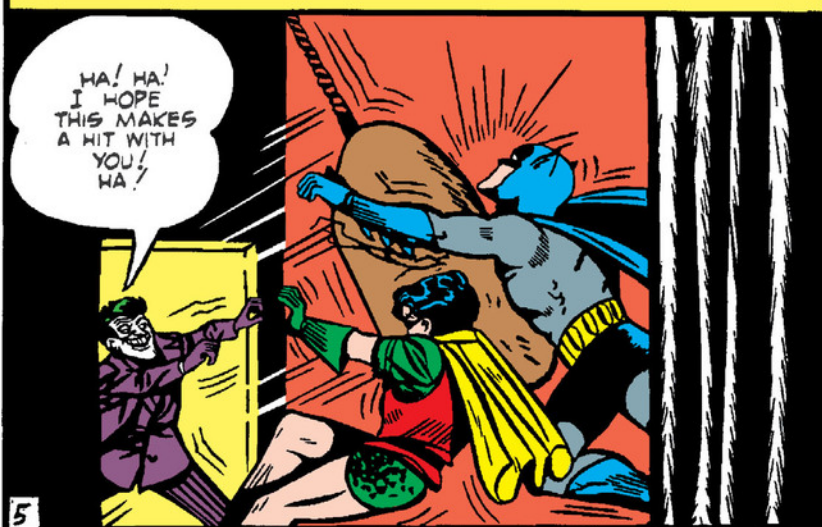
A POWERFUL BLOW SENDS THE JOKER SPINNING THROUGH THE DOOR---



ONCE OUTSIDE, THE CUNNING CLOWN SEIZES HIS ADVANTAGE AND RACES AWAY WITH BATMAN AND ROBIN IN FULL PURSUIT.

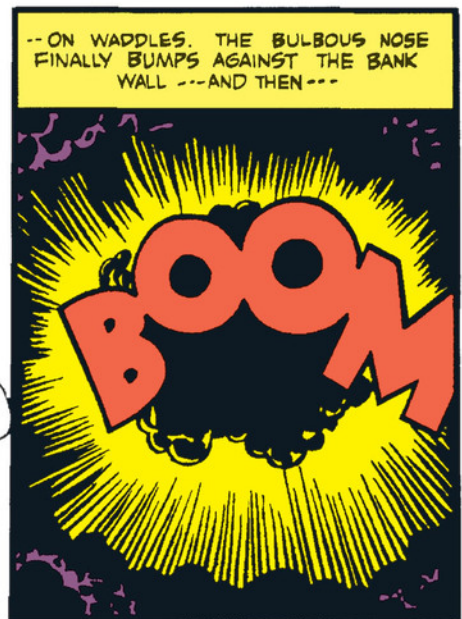
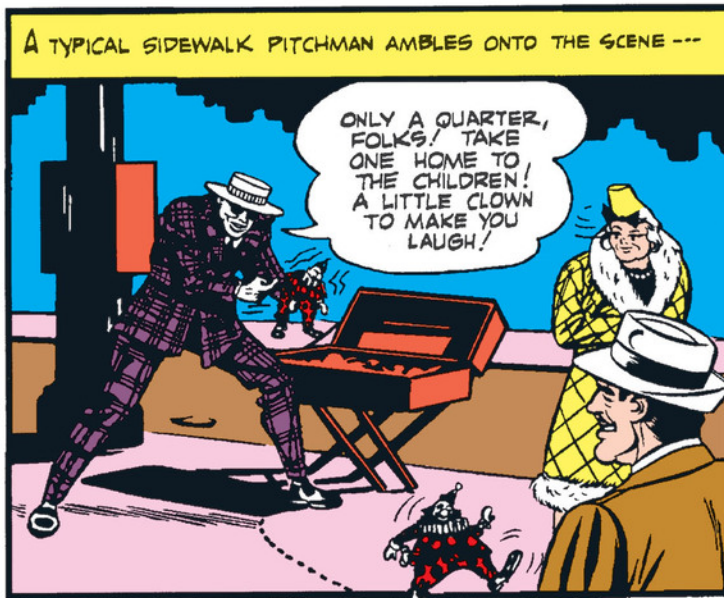


SUDDENLY THE GRIM JESTER HALTS HIS MAD FLIGHT WHEELS AND---



SECONDS LATER, A SUPERCHARGED ENGINE ROARS TESTIMONY TO THE JOKER'S ESCAPE!





IN THE MIST OF FRENZIED EXCITEMENT, THE PITCHMAN REMOVES HIS MAKEUP AND REVEALS THE LEERING FACE OF THE JOKER---



HA! HA!
JUST A LITTLE
DOLL--FILLED
WITH T.N.T.
EXPLODING THE
WALL SO THAT
THE TELLERS'
CAGES ARE
EXPOSED! WHAT
A JOKE!

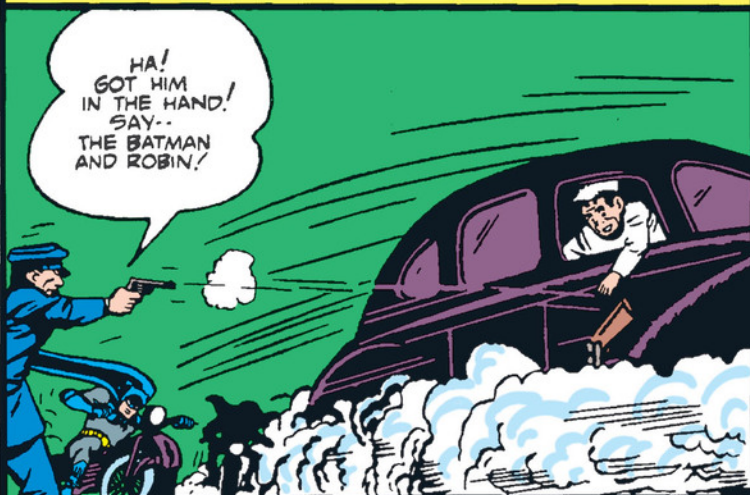


A FEW POLICEMEN
COLLECT THEMSELVES
AND CHARGE --
BUT--



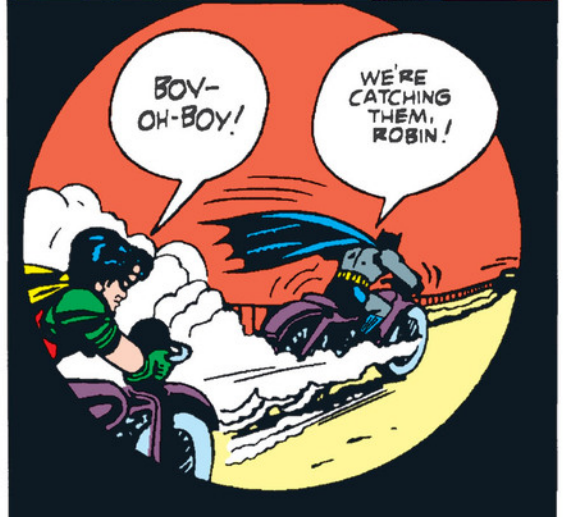
DUCK!

AN INSTANT LATER, THE KILLER-CAR ROARS AWAY---FOLLOWED BY TWO MANTLED FIGURES ATOP BUCKING MOTORCYCLES!



HA!
GOT HIM
IN THE HAND!
SAY--
THE BATMAN
AND ROBIN!

A DANGEROUS CHASE BEGINS--



BOY-
OH-BOY!

WE'RE
CATCHING
THEM,
ROBIN!

SUDDENLY, THE JOKER WHIPS HIS CAR ABOUT AND VAULTS FOR SAFETY!



THAT DEVIL
HAS BLOCKED
THE ROAD!
CAN'T TURN!
ROBIN--
ALLEY-OOP!

THE ACROBATMAN MAKES A DARING LEAP--



NOW!

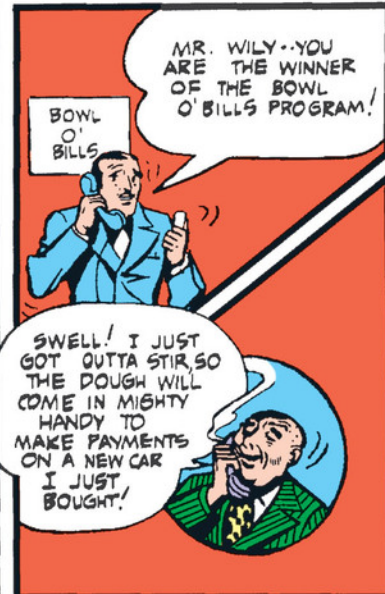
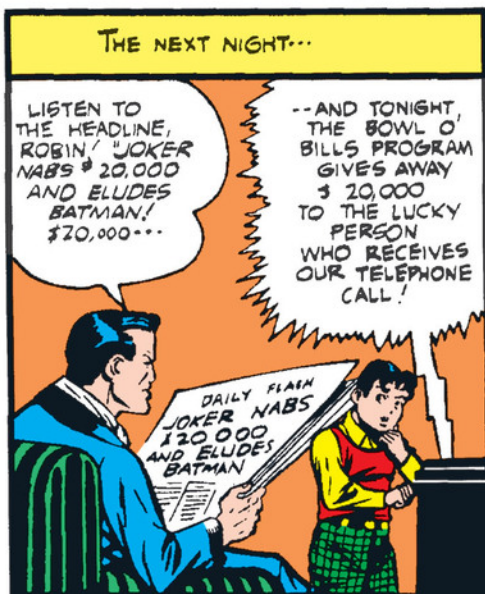
A RENDING CRASH! LIKE TWIN CANNON BALLS, THE MOTORCYCLES GRIND INTO THE AUTOMOBILE, BUT BATMAN AND ROBIN--

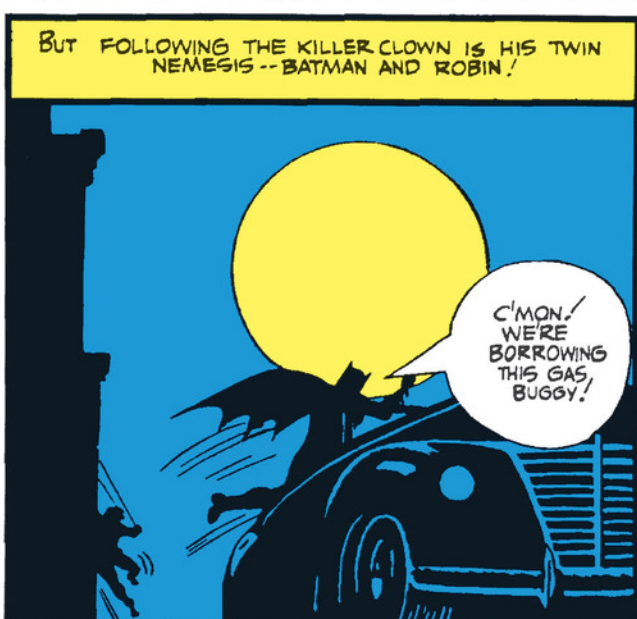
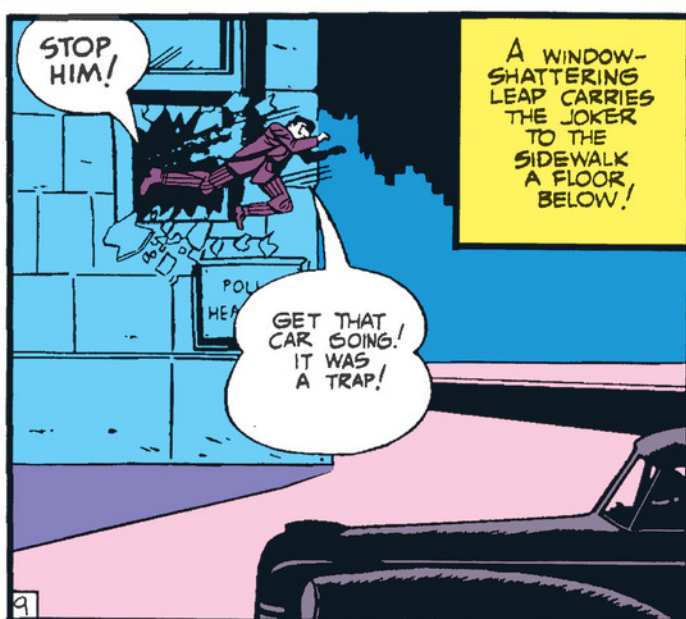
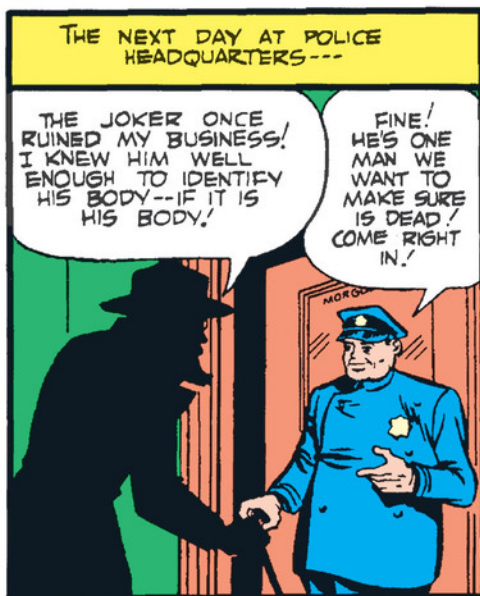


SAFE!
WHEW--
THAT WAS
CLOSE!

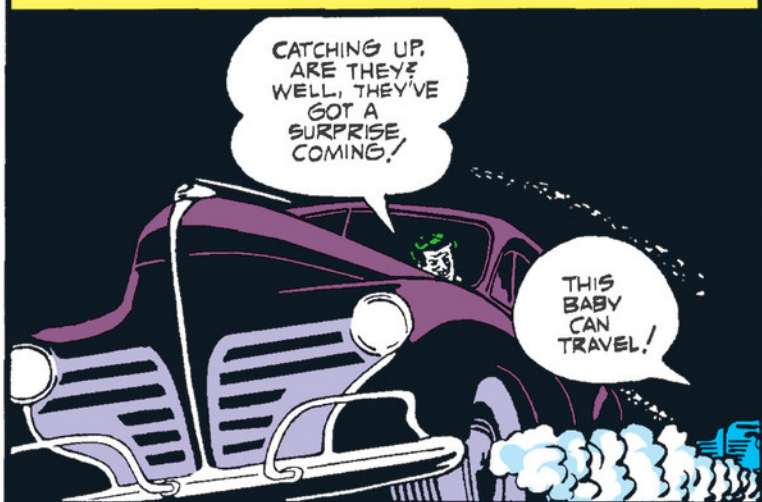
JUST THINK--
THAT MIGHT
HAVE BEEN
US! OUR JOKER
FRIEND HAS
PULLED ANOTHER
ACE FROM HIS
CROOKED
DECK!

CRASH





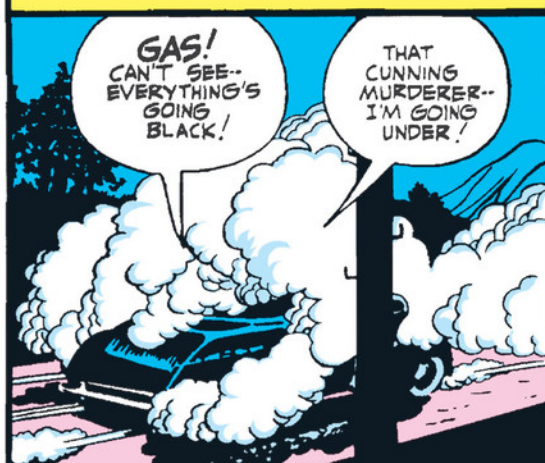
AGAIN, A WILD, FRENZIED CHASE, TAKING THE CARS OUT INTO OPEN COUNTRY!



CATCHING UP, ARE THEY? WELL, THEY'VE GOT A SURPRISE COMING!

THIS BABY CAN TRAVEL!

WITHOUT A WARNING--FROM THE EXHAUST PIPE--

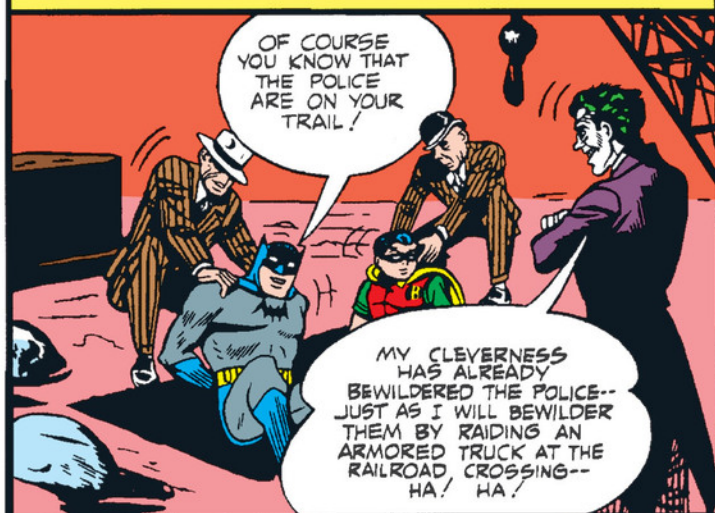


GAS! CAN'T SEE-- EVERYTHING'S GOING BLACK!

THAT CUNNING MURDERER-- I'M GOING UNDER!

A SLEEPING GAS OVERCOMES THE CRIME-BUSTERS!

LATER-- BATMAN AND ROBIN AWAKE AS CAPTIVES OF THE MOCKING JOKER!



OF COURSE YOU KNOW THAT THE POLICE ARE ON YOUR TRAIL!

MY CLEVERNESS HAS ALREADY BEWILDERED THE POLICE-- JUST AS I WILL BEWILDER THEM BY RAIDING AN ARMORED TRUCK AT THE RAILROAD CROSSING-- HA! HA!



AS FOR YOU, DEAR BATMAN AND ROBIN, YOU WOULD HAVE ARRANGED A BURIAL FOR ME--SO I AM DOING THE SAME FOR YOU! HA! HA! GET OUT OF THIS ONE IF YOU CAN---

FUNNY, ISN'T HE?

YEAH-- HE KILLS ME!

UNDER THE JOKER'S DIRECTIONS, A CRANE LOWERS A TON-HEAVY SLAB OF ROCK OVER THE MAKESHIFT CRYPT!



EVEN YOUR SUPERIOR STRENGTH WON'T HELP AGAINST THIS MINUTARE MOUNTAIN, BATMAN. HA! HA! YOU'RE GOING TO BE BURIED ALIVE! OUR BATTLE OF WITS IS OVER--AND I'VE WON!

DOWN COMES THE STONE, AND THE BATMAN AND ROBIN ARE SEALED FAST-- ENTOMBED!



ROPES ARE COMING OFF, BUT WE'RE STILL IN A SPOT!

THIS AIR WON'T LAST LONG--AND NEITHER WILL WE, UNLESS WE DO SOMETHING FAST!

CAN'T EVEN BUDGE IT! IT LOOKS LIKE THE END FOR US!

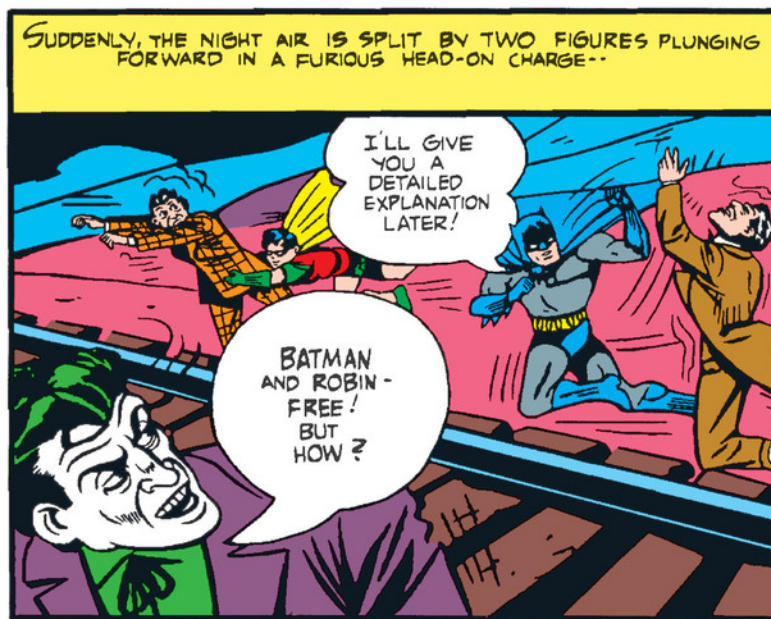
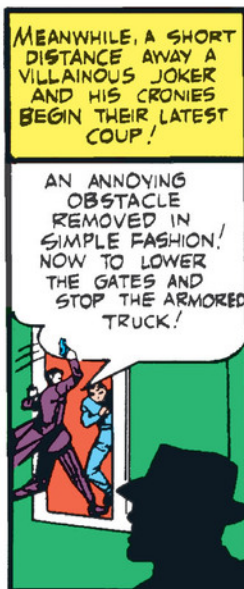
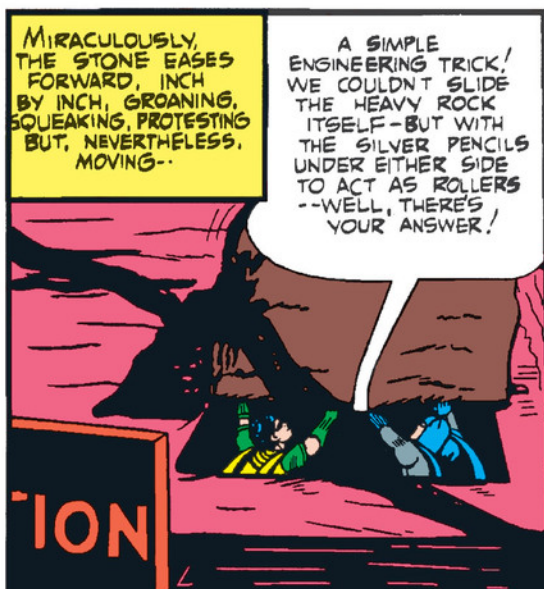
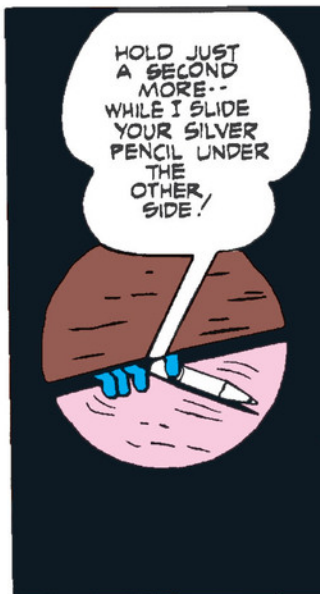
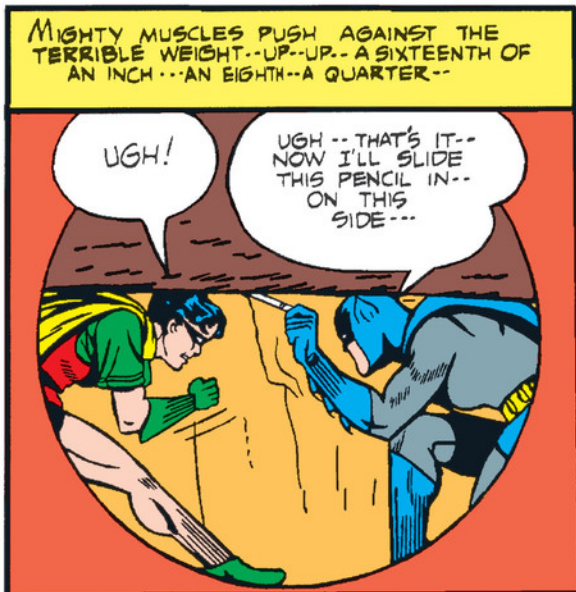


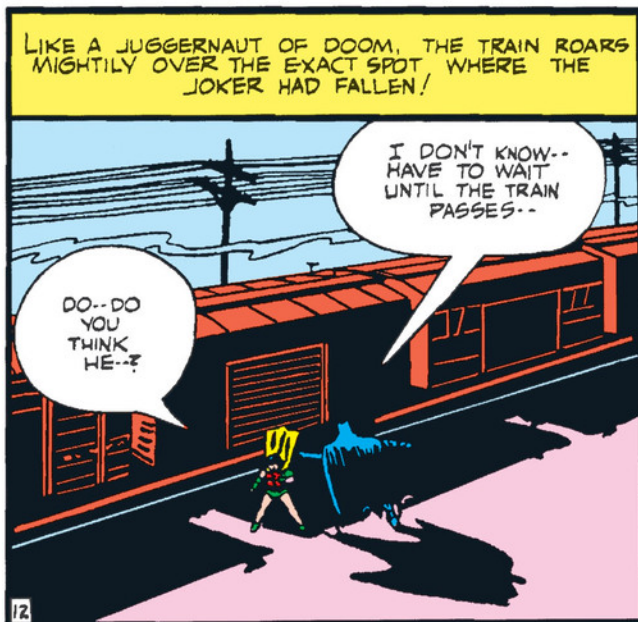
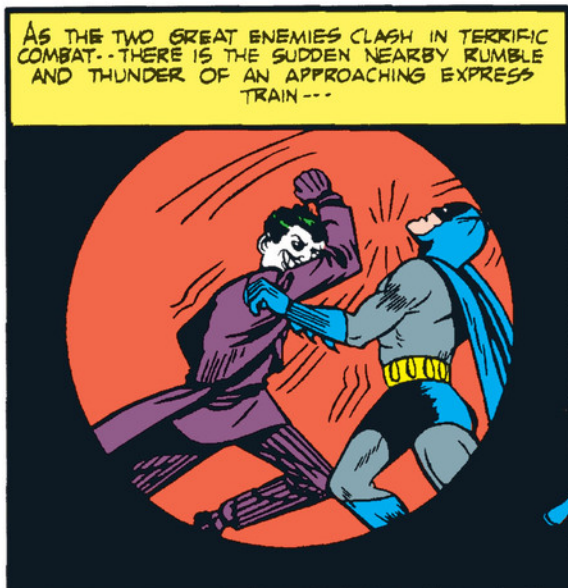
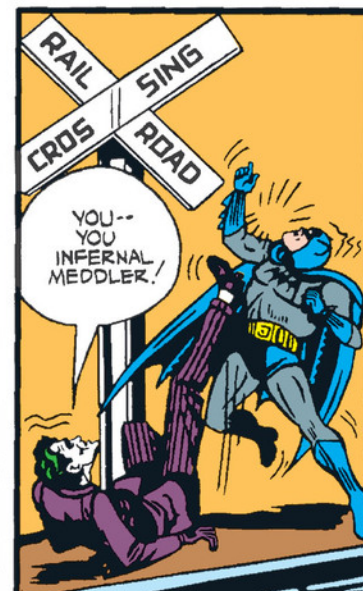
NOT YET! THIS SILVER PENCIL FROM MY UTILITY BELT-- IT MAY SAVE OUR LIVES--DO AS I SAY--

WHAT'S THE IDEA?



YOU'LL SEE--STOP TALKING AND PUSH-- ALL WE HAVE TO DO IS RAISE THIS SLAB A FRACTION OF AN INCH-- UGH--





BATMAN

WITH
ROBIN

Christmas-

SEASON OF TURKEY AND PLUM PUDDING--OF GIFTS AND GOOD WILL--FUN AND GAMES AND LAUGHTER! WE'RE ALL SET FOR A REAL, ROLICKING OLD-FASHIONED CHRISTMAS OF SNOW AND HOLLY AND SANTA CLAUS--ALL THE TRIMMINGS! AND YOU'RE ALL INVITED TO A MERRY YULETIDE PARTY WITH THE **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN** THE BOY WONDER--WHERE WE'LL TEAM UP WITH THAT JOLLY, RED-FACED, WHITE-HAIRED OLD GENT--TO GIVE A LONELY ORPHAN BOY THE MOST WONDERFUL CHRISTMAS PRESENT IN THE WORLD--HIS DAD!



THE DAY BEFORE CHRISTMAS, AND A SMOOTH, WHITE SHEET OF SNOW BLANKETS THE ROOFTOPS AND STREETS OF GOTHAM CITY.

HAPPY CHRISTMAS SHOPPERS PUSH THEIR WAY INTO CROWDED DEPARTMENT STORES. AMONG THEM ARE BRUCE WAYNE AND DICK GRAYSON-

OOPS! HEY--WHERE ARE YOU, DICK?

HERE I AM!

MERRY CHRISTMAS TO YOU, BROTHER!

MERRY CHRISTMAS!

YES--EVERYONE SEEMS TO GO OUT OF HIS WAY TO BRING JOY TO OTHERS!

WHERE DO WE GO NOW?

TO THE ORPHANAGE. I WANT TO SEE IF THOSE TOYS I ORDERED GET THERE IN TIME!

THANK YOU, SIR!

AT THE ORPHANAGE---

THANK YOU AGAIN FOR THOSE GIFTS!

IT'S LITTLE ENOUGH I CAN DO TO MAKE THIS A HAPPY CHRISTMAS FOR THE POOR, PARENTLESS TOTS! I--EH--WHAT'S THIS?

THERE AIN'T NO SANTA CLAUS!

YOU HEARD ME--THERE AIN'T NO SANTA CLAUS!

BUT THERE IS, TOO! YOU WRITE HIM A LETTER AND HE BRINGS YOU ANYTHING YOU ASK FOR! MY DADDY TOLD ME SO!

YOU HAVEN'T GOT ANY DADDY! YOU'RE JUST LIKE THE REST OF US HERE!

BUT I HAVE GOT A DADDY-- ONLY HE'S AWAY ON SOME LONG TRIP-- GEE--I WISH I KNEW WHEN HE WAS COMING BACK!

HE'S NOT EVER COMING BACK-- BUT IF YOU BELIEVE IN SANTA CLAUS, WHY DON'T YOU ASK HIM TO SEND YOUR DADDY TO YOU? HAH!

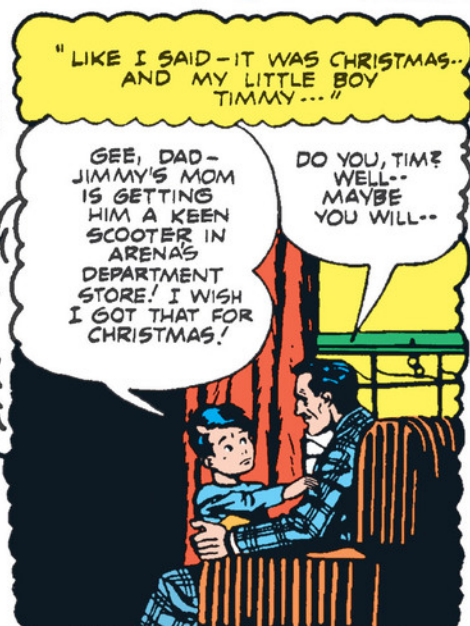
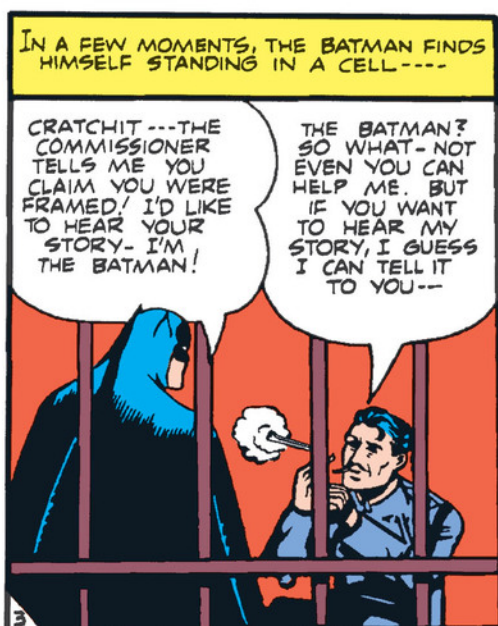
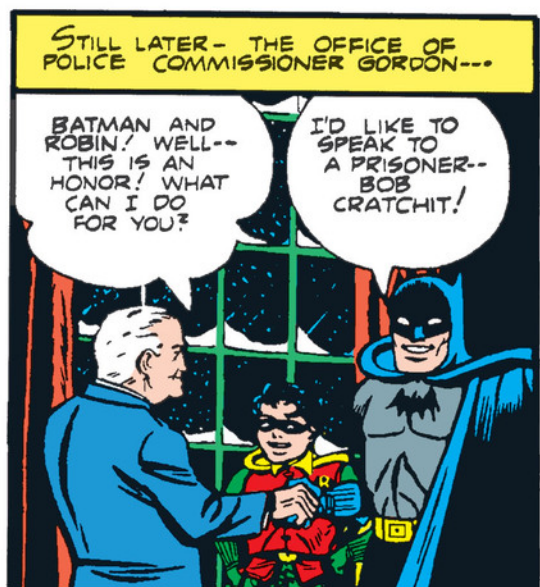
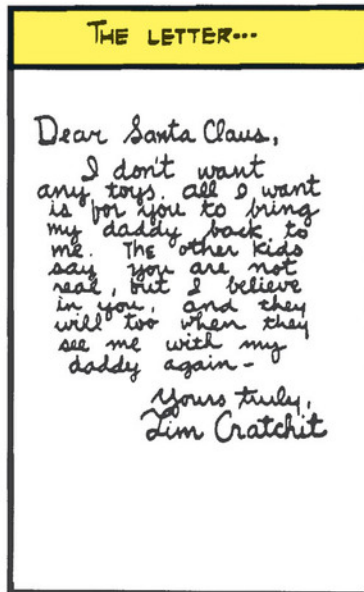
ALL RIGHT--I WILL! AND WHEN MY DADDY COMES HERE YOU'LL BELIEVE IN SANTA CLAUS THEN! YOU'LL SEE!

SURE, TIMMY-- BUT, YOUR DADDY AIN'T NEVER COMING BACK 'CAUSE THERE AIN'T NO SANTA CLAUS.

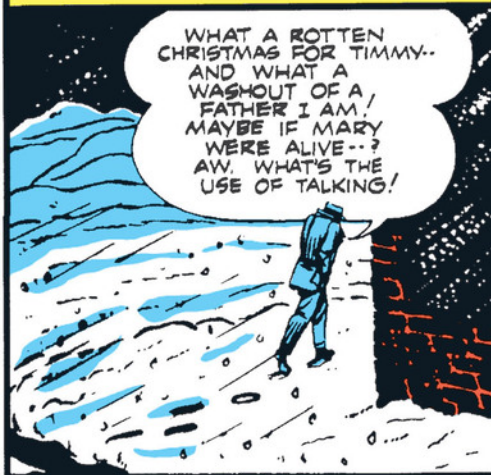
THAT'S ONLY KID STUFF!

THAT BOY TIMMY-- IS HIS FATHER DEAD?

NO--HE'S IN JAIL-- SERVING A LIFE SENTENCE FOR MURDER! SAD CASE, TOO! THE MAN INSISTS HE WAS FRAMED!



"THE KID HAD HIS HEART SET ON THAT SCOOTER--BUT I WAS FLAT BROKE!"



WHAT A ROTTEN CHRISTMAS FOR TIMMY-- AND WHAT A WASHOUT OF A FATHER I AM! MAYBE IF MARY WERE ALIVE--? AW, WHAT'S THE USE OF TALKING!

"THERE IT WAS--THAT SCOOTER-- ALL SHINY AND NEW! I GUESS I LOST MY HEAD FOR A MINUTE. I HAD TO HAVE IT FOR TIMMY!"



I KNOW WHAT I'LL DO. I'LL STEAL ONE--BUT I'LL PAY FOR IT WHEN I GET A JOB--SURE-- IT ISN'T REALLY STEALING!

"SURE-- I KNEW IT WAS WRONG-- BUT ALL I COULD SEE WAS TIMMY'S FACE TRUSTING IN ME--HIS DAD! SO--I SNEAKED TO THE BACK--"



DOOR'S OPEN--FUNNY! WHAT'S THAT? A SHOT!

"I RAN INSIDE!"



YOU-- YOU KILLED HIM!

"WITHOUT A WORD, THE KILLER SPRANG FORWARD AND BROUGHT THE GUN DOWN ON MY HEAD!"



"WHEN I AWOKED, IT WAS LIKE A NIGHTMARE!"



THE WATCHMAN SAW YOU WORKING ON THE SAFE. YOU KILLED HIM-- BUT HE MANAGED TO SLUG YOU BEFORE HE DIED! ISN'T THAT IT?

NO--I DIDN'T DO IT!

"I TOLD THEM MY STORY AND THEY TRACED THE GUN TO A PETTY THIEF NAMED HAL FINK!"



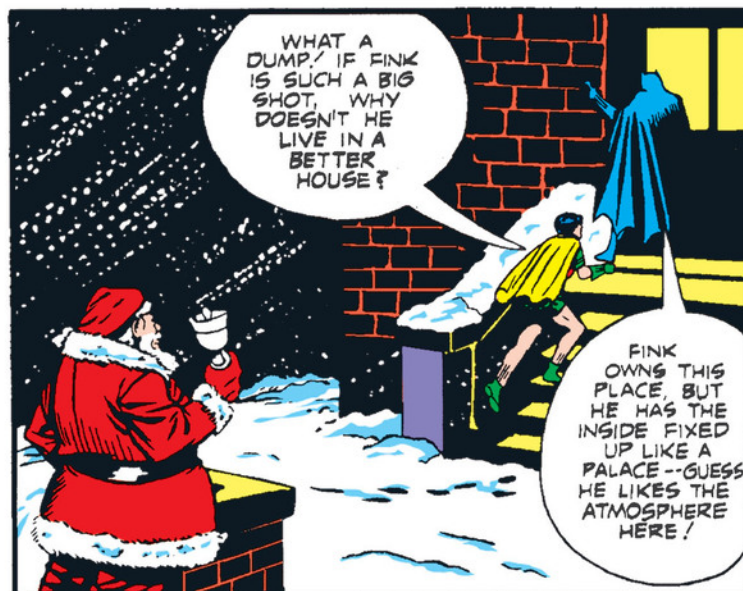
HE WAS ROOMIN' WITH ME--HE WAS BROKE. I FELT SORRY FOR HIM--BUT WHAT DOES THE MUGG DO BUT STEAL MY GUN AND MURDER A GUY--THAT'S GRATITUDE FOR YOU!

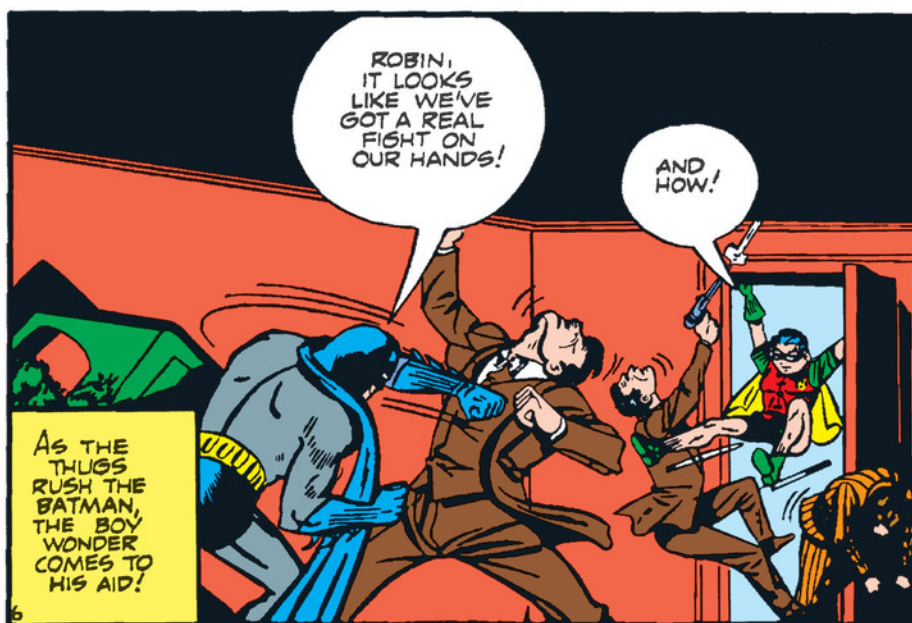
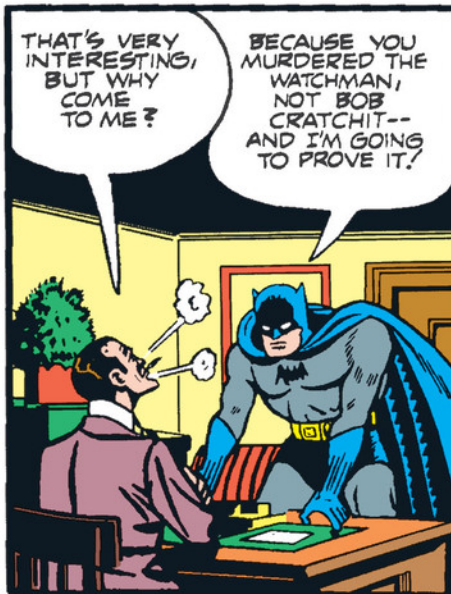
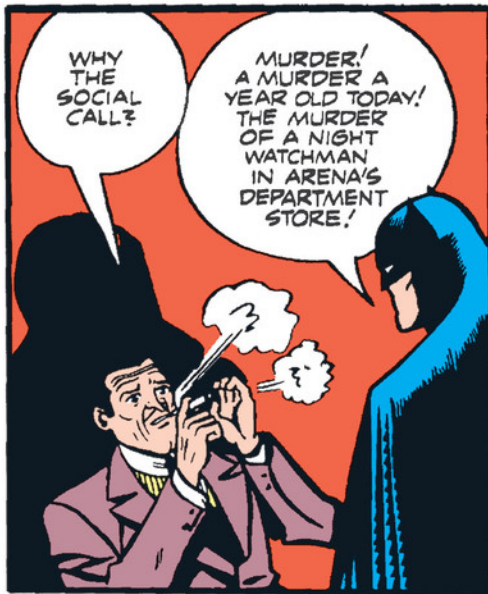
YOU KILLED THE WATCHMAN--NOT I!

YOU CAN GUESS THE REST. THE JURY GAVE ME A LIFE SENTENCE! BUT I DIDN'T DO IT! I SWEAR IT!

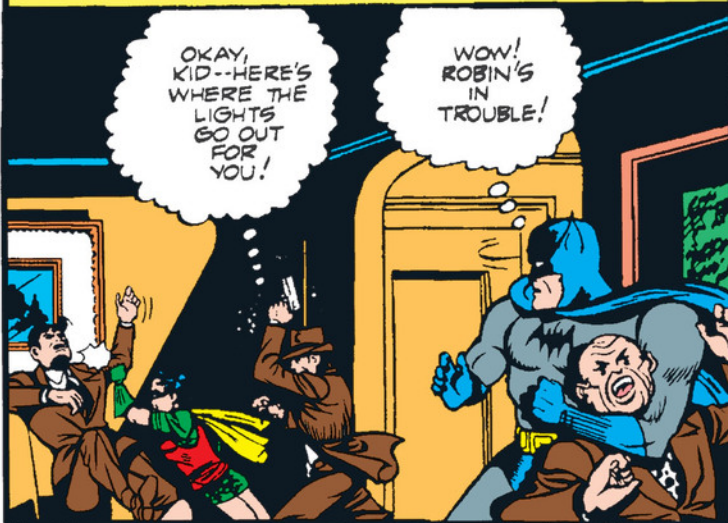


I BELIEVE YOU! HAL FINK CERTAINLY THOUGHT FAST, DIDN'T HE? COVERED HIMSELF UP VERY NEATLY!





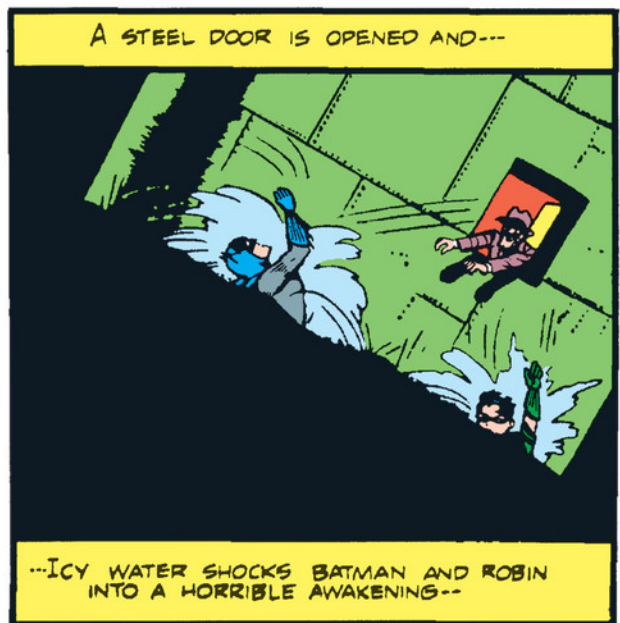
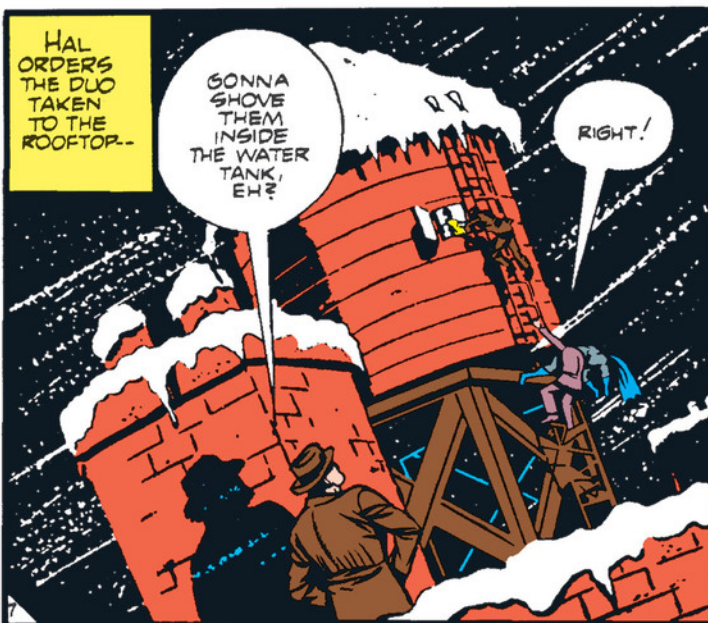
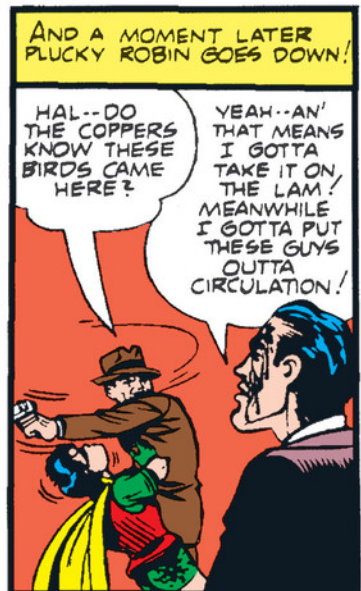
BUT DANGER SWOOPS DOWN ON THE VALIANT BATTLER!

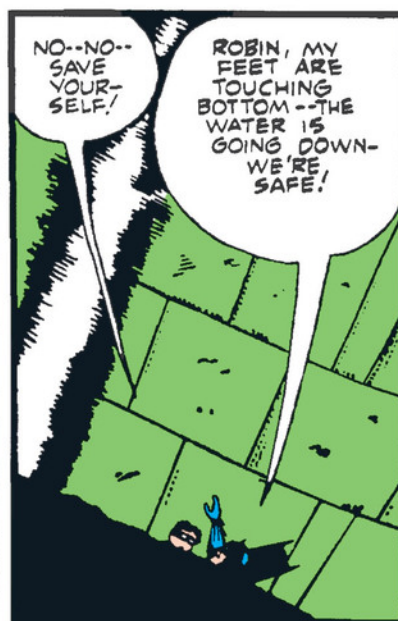
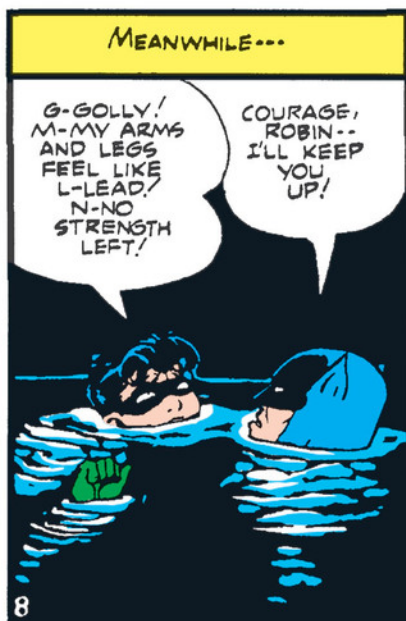
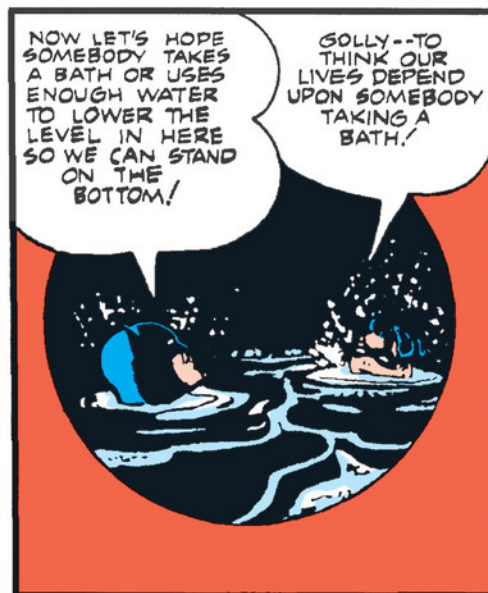
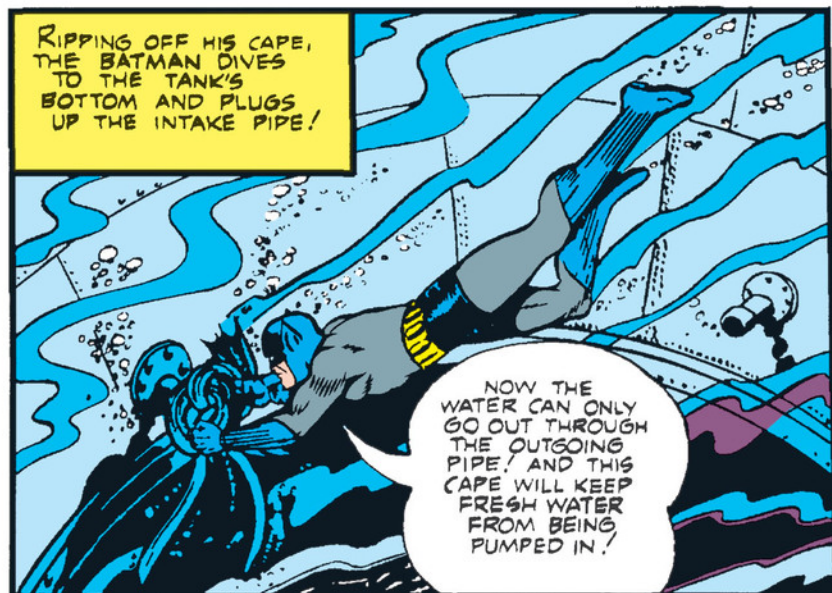
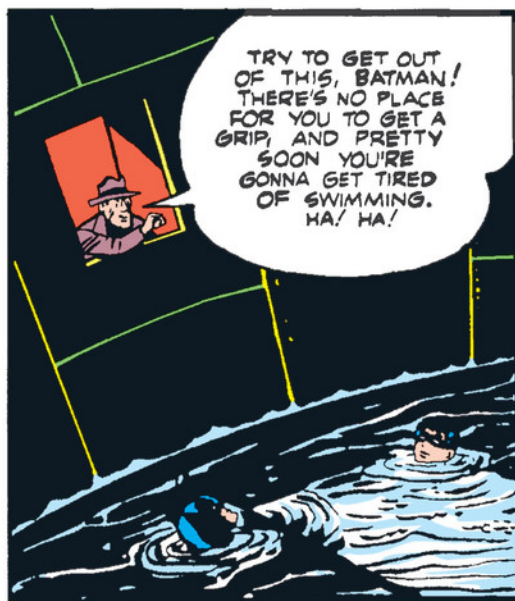


A SWIFT, ACCURATE THROW, AND THE GUN SINKS HARMLESSLY INTO A SOFT PILLOW!



BUT HIS TIMELY INTERVENTION ON ROBIN'S BEHALF LEAVES THE BATMAN OFF GUARD---





UNWITTINGLY, IN HIS HASTE HAL FINK HAS LEFT THE WATER RUNNING, PROVIDING AN ESCAPE FOR THE BATMAN AND ROBIN--



AND SO, NOT LONG AFTER--



G-GOLLY! THAT LIGHT LOOKS GOOD TO ME!

AS SOON AS WE'RE OUT OF HERE, WE'LL RACE HOME AND CHANGE TO DRY COSTUMES!

SOMETIME LATER---AS BATMAN AND ROBIN DART PAST A WHARF ON THEIR WAY TO COMMISSIONER GORDON--



SAY, ISN'T THAT THE SAME SANTA WE SAW IN FRONT OF HAL'S PLACE?

HMM-- THAT'S ODD! LOOK! HE SEES US!



LOOK AT HIM-- HE'S JINGLING THAT BELL LIKE A MANIAC!

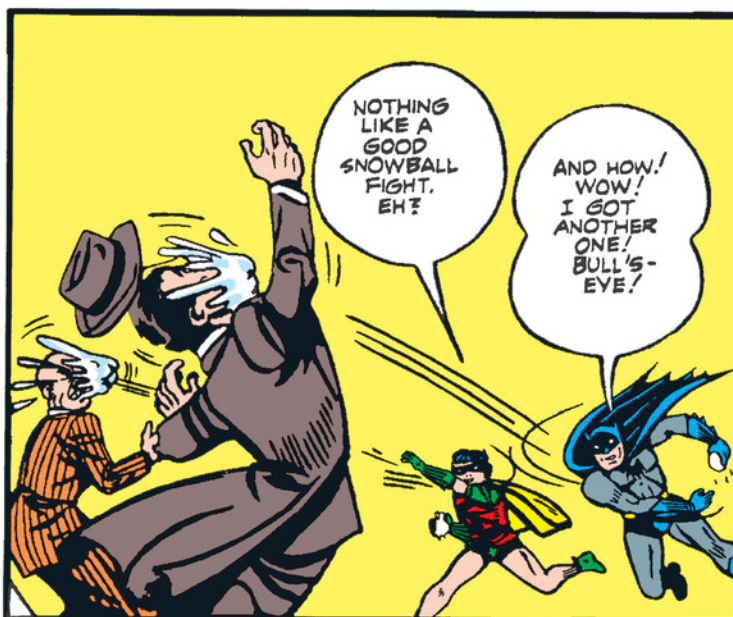
NOW I GET IT! THAT'S A SIGNAL! HE'S A LOOKOUT! C'MON!

THE BATMAN'S HERE!

AT THE SIGNAL, HAL AND HIS BANDITS PILE OUT OF THE WAREHOUSE---TO BE MET BY--

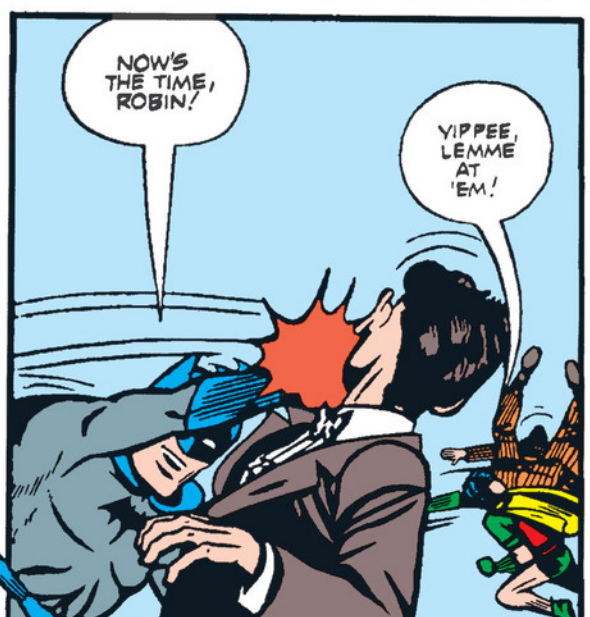


LET'S GET-- UGH!



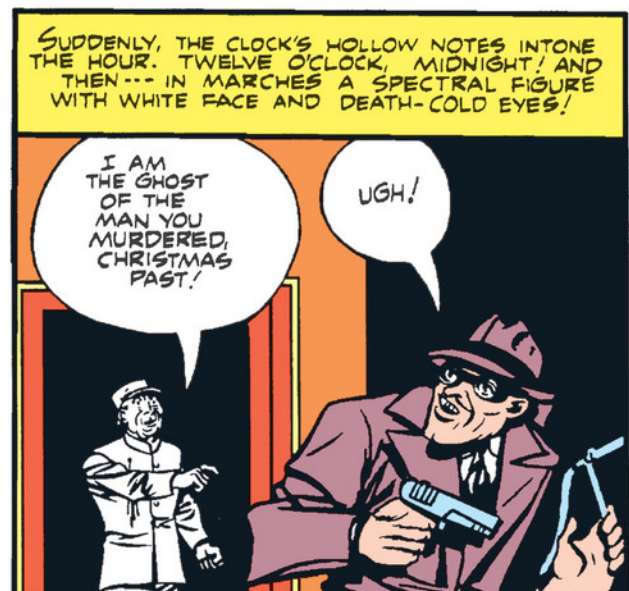
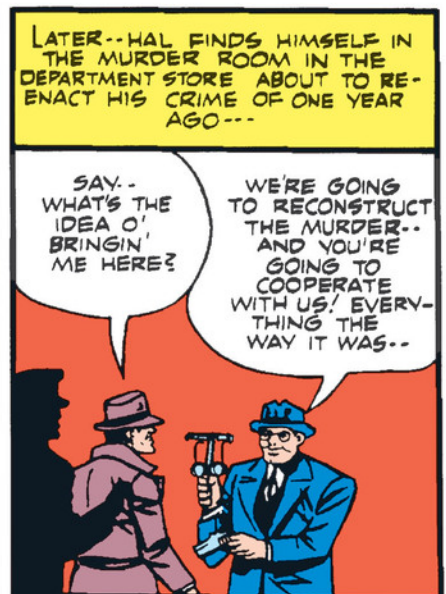
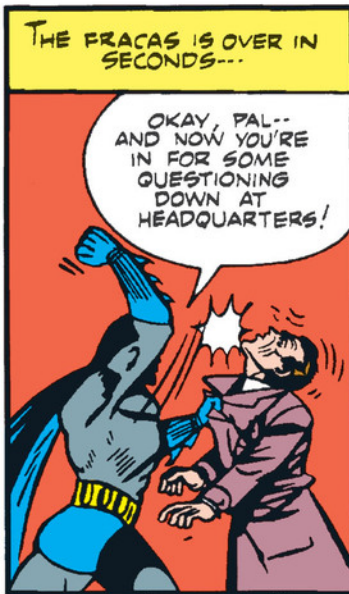
NOTHING LIKE A GOOD SNOWBALL FIGHT, EH?

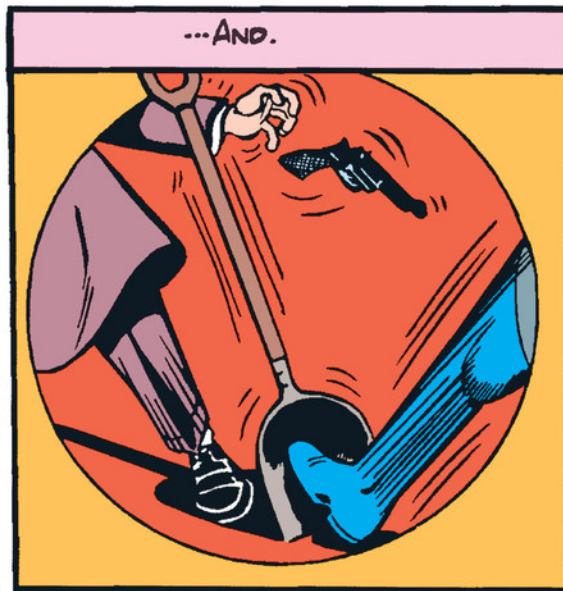
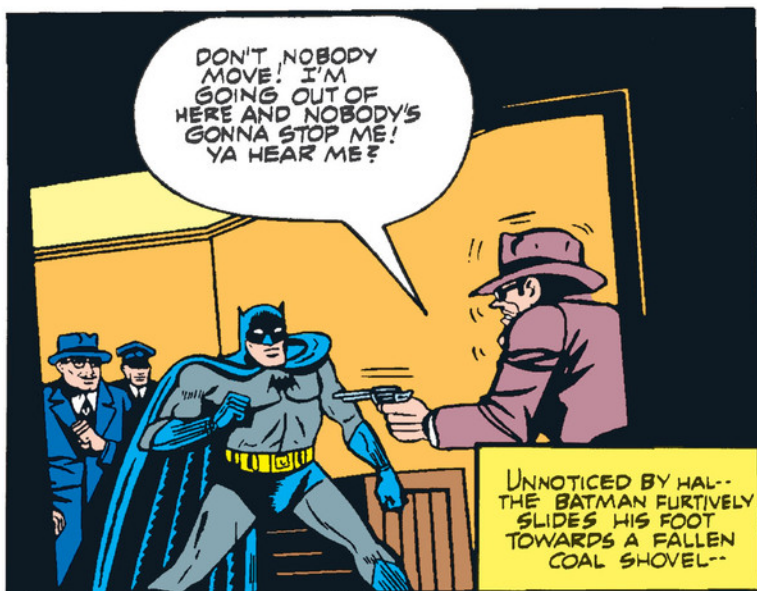
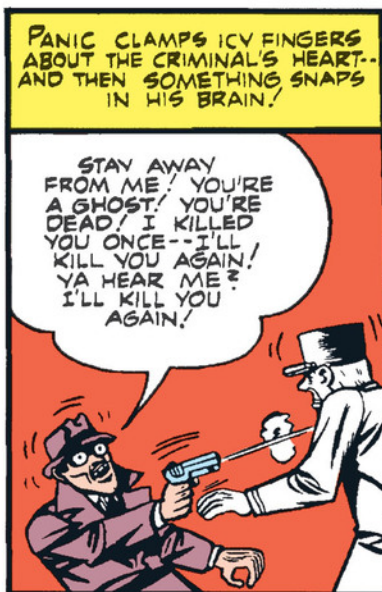
AND HOW! WOW! I GOT ANOTHER ONE! BULL'S-EYE!



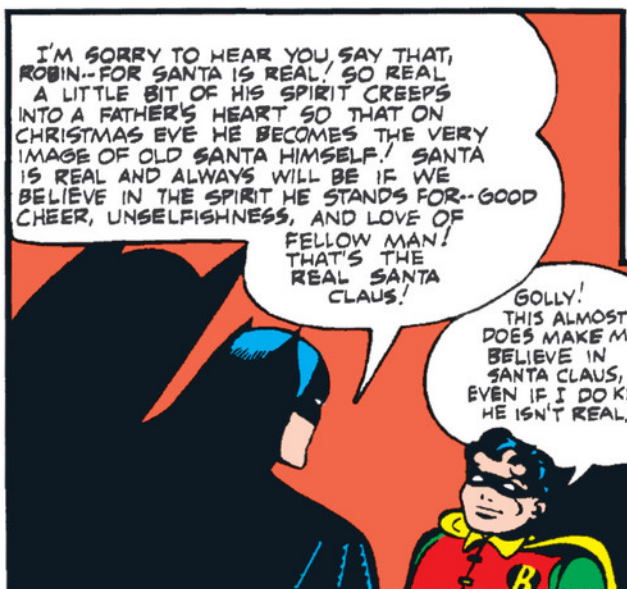
NOW'S THE TIME, ROBIN!

YIPPEE, LEMME AT 'EM!











No. 61



The **BATMAN**

Detective

MARCH

COMICS

**BATMAN
AND
ROBIN
VERSUS
"THE THREE
RACKETEERS"**



BAT MAN

WITH
ROBIN

THIS IS A STORY OF THREE-
OF A KIND--OF A TRIO OF ROGUES
WHO FORMED A TRIPLE-THREAT
AGAINST LAW AND ORDER--SO
THAT CRIME WOULD PAY!
THE BATMAN AND ROBIN
THE BOY WONDER FIND PERILOUS
THREE-STAR ADVENTURE WHEN
THEY CLASH WITH THIS
TRIUMVIRATE OF TROUBLE AND
SMASH A TRI-TERROR COMBINE
IN THE SAGA OF--
"THE THREE
RACKETEERS!"

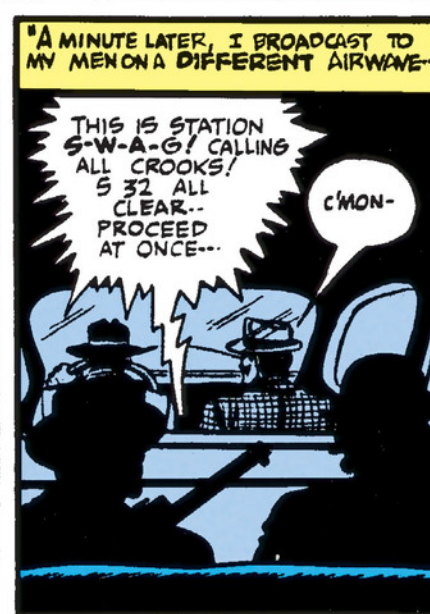
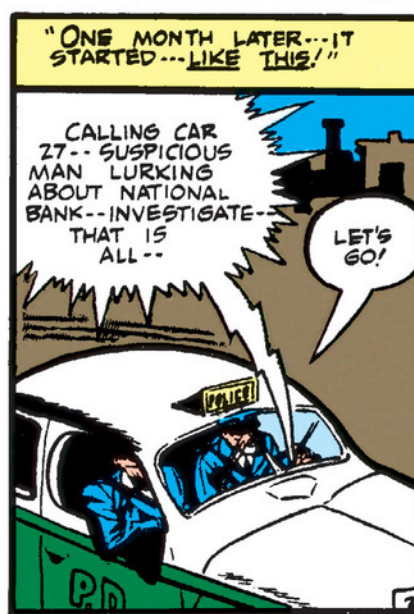
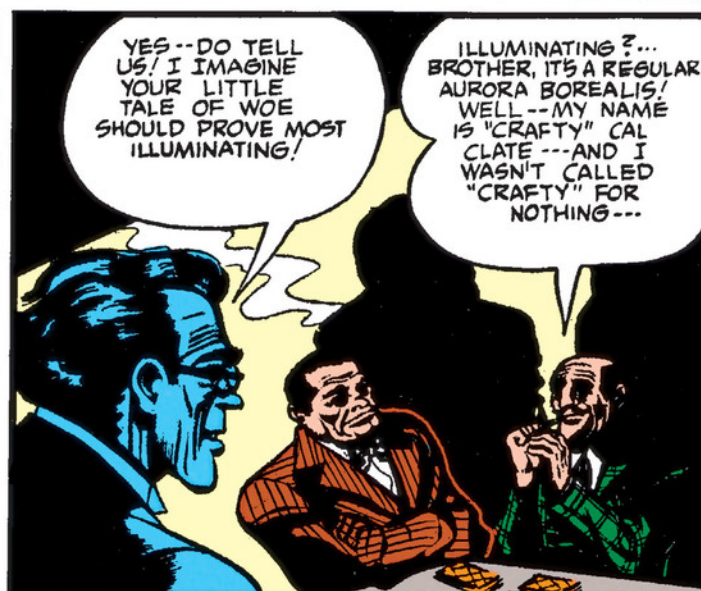
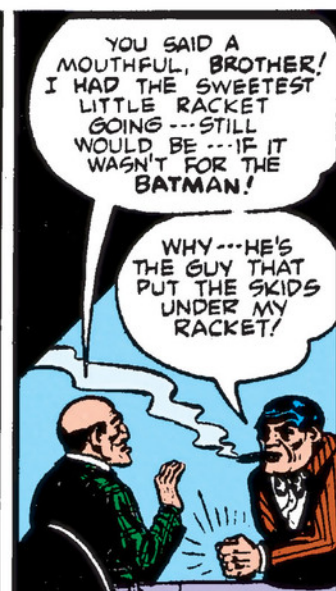
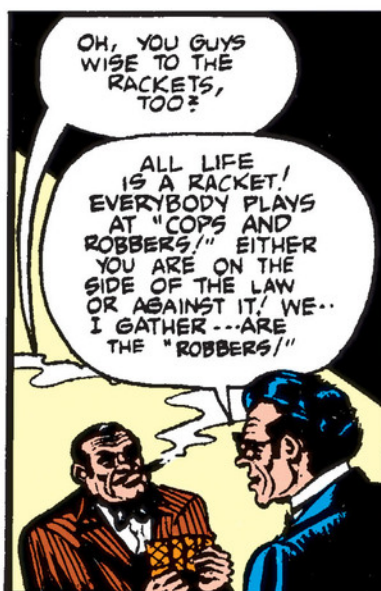
BOB
KANE

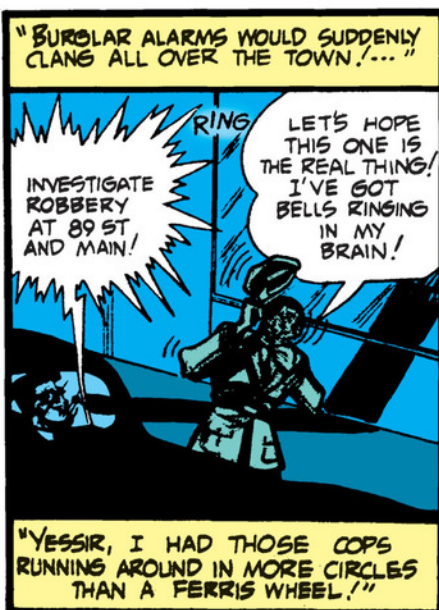
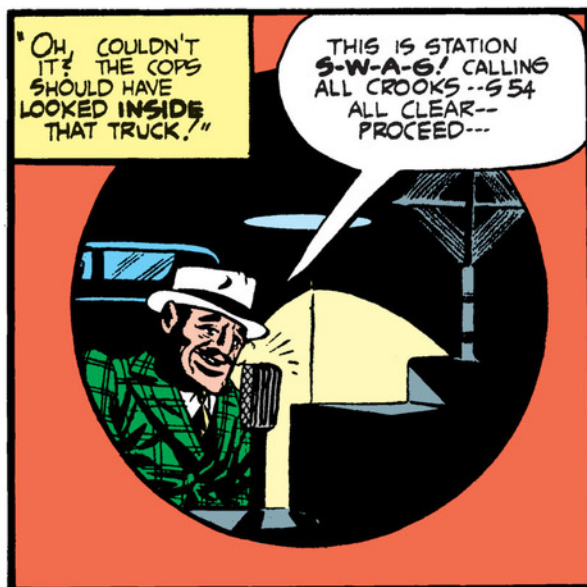
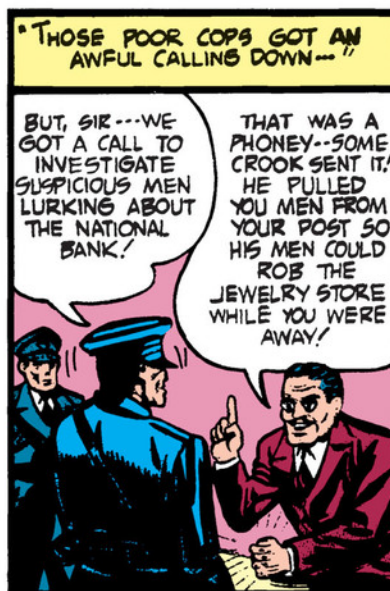
EVERY
STORY
HAS A
BEGINNING--

OURS BEGINS IN A SMALL
ROOM WHERE THREE MEN
SIT AND PLAY CARDS---

AW! I DON'T KNOW WHY I'M
SITTING HERE AND PLAYIN'
PENNY-ANTE GAMES! I'M
USED TO DOIN' BIG
THINGS!



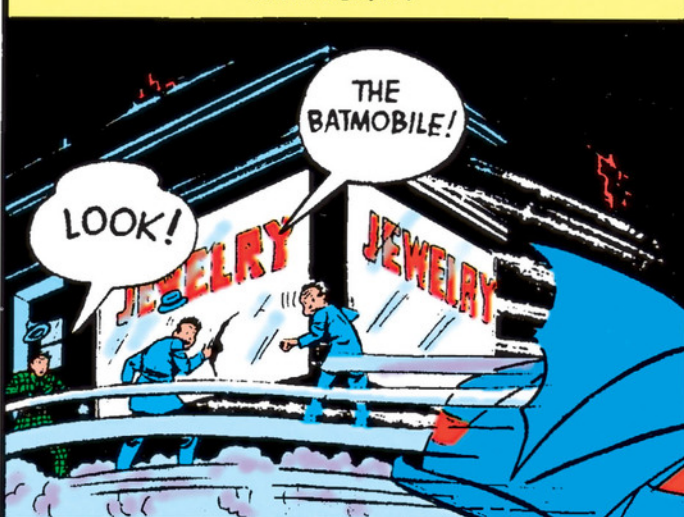




"ONE NIGHT, AFTER SENDING THE COPS OUT ON A WILD-GOOSE CHASE, THE BOYS ARE JUST STARTING A JOB--"



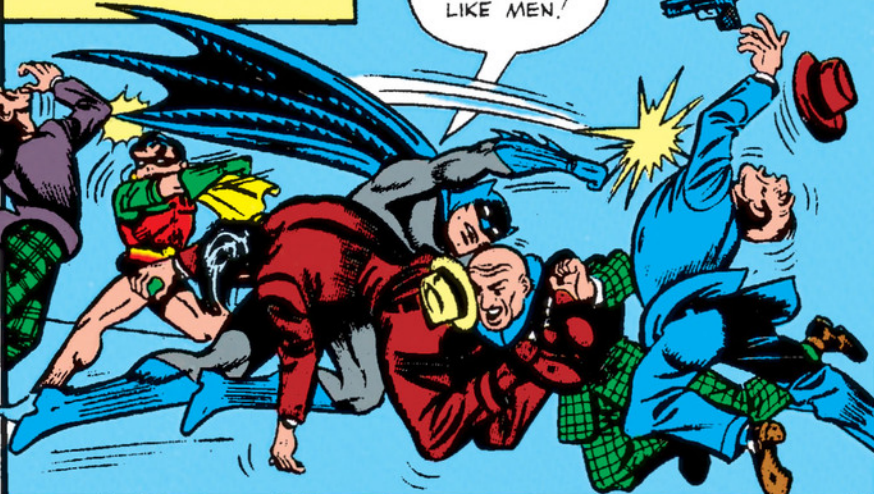
"SUDDENLY SOMETHING WHIZZES AROUND THE CORNER LIKE A SKYROCKET!"



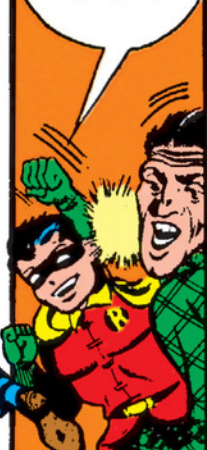
"I FOUND OUT LATER THAT THE BATMAN WENT STREAKING AROUND THE TOWN IN THAT BATMOBILE OF HIS! THAT SUPER-CHARGED CAR WAS SO FAST HE WAS ABLE TO ANSWER EVERY CALL THAT WENT OUT! THAT'S HOW HE CAUGHT UP TO US!"



"WELL, OUT OF THAT CAR CAME THE BATMAN AND ROBIN, SLAMMING INTO MY BOYS!"



"DID YOU SAY YOU WANTED YOUR FACE LIFTED?"



"ME AND MY MEN PILED OUT OF THE LAUNDRY TRUCK-- BUT WE HAD A FIGHT ON OUR HANDS."



"SOME OF THE BOYS MANAGED TO GET A COUPLE OF LUCKY POKES IN-- AND THEY WENT DOWN, STILL FIGHTING--"



"WE MADE A CLEAN GETAWAY--- BUT HOW WAS I TO GUESS THAT THE BATMAN RECOGNIZED ME?"

WE DIDN'T DO SO WELL, DID WE?

WE DID ALL RIGHT! I RECOGNIZED ONE OF THEM--HE'S CRAFTY CAL CLATE! HIS ADDRESS SHOULD BE IN THE PHONE BOOK!

"THE NEXT NIGHT, WHEN I GOT HOME--- I OPENED MY APARTMENT DOOR AND WOW--- THE PLACE LOOKED LIKE A CYCLONE HAD BREEZED THROUGH IT!"

HOLY CATS! SOMEBODY'S BEEN SEARCHING MY PLACE!

A BOX--- LEFT FOR ME? WONDER WHAT'S IN IT?

A...A BAT! THE BATMAN-- HE'S BEEN HERE!

HE PROBABLY CAME LOOKING FOR THE DUPLICATE CODE BOOK-- MAYBE HE FOUND IT--I'D BETTER MAKE SURE-- HE'S A CLEVER GUY---

WHEW---WHAT A RELIEF--- STILL HERE-- MIGHT AS WELL LEAVE IT HERE--- I FOOLED THE BATMAN---HAW! HAW!

"BUT I LAUGHED TOO SOON 'CAUSE WHEN I LEFT----"

NICE STUNT, THIS! MAKING CAL THINK WE HAD RANSACKED THE PLACE SO THAT HE SHOWED US WHERE HE HID THAT CODE BOOK!

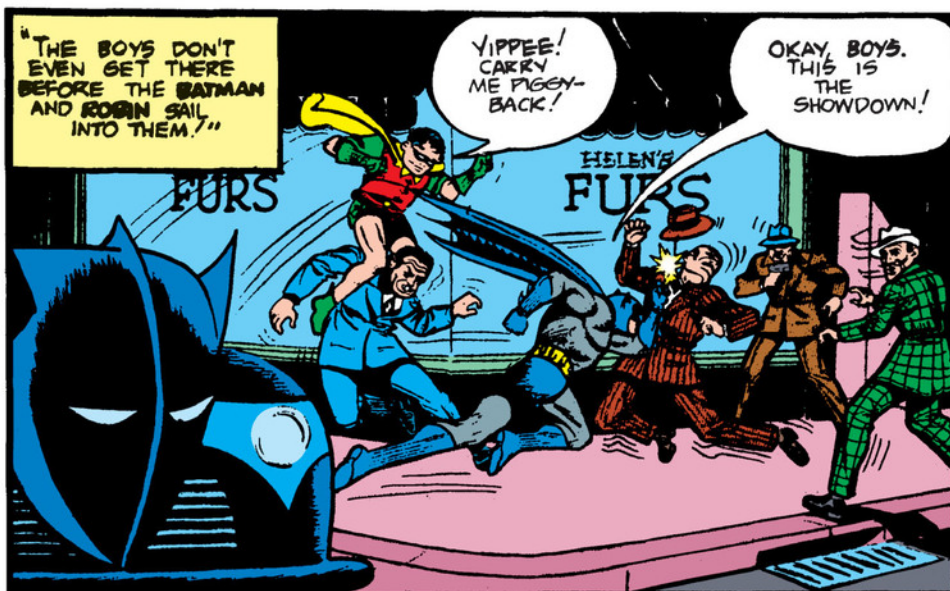
WITH THAT CODE, WE CAN TRACK DOWN THOSE CROOKS TONIGHT! LET'S MOVE!

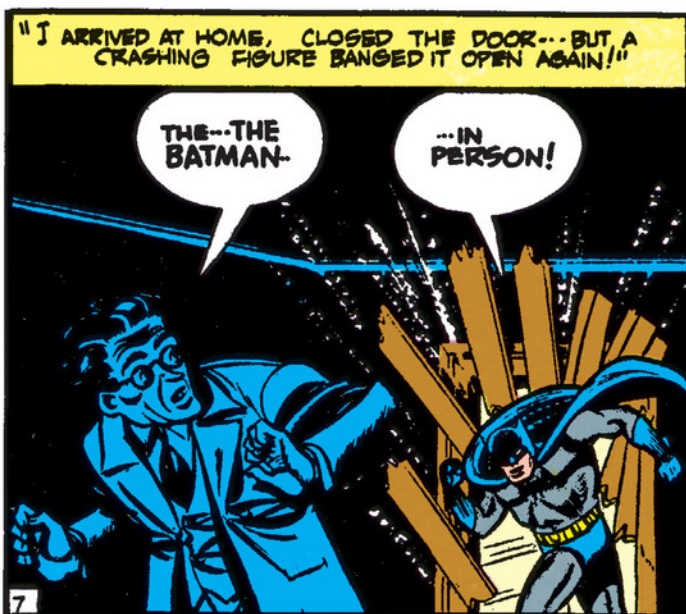
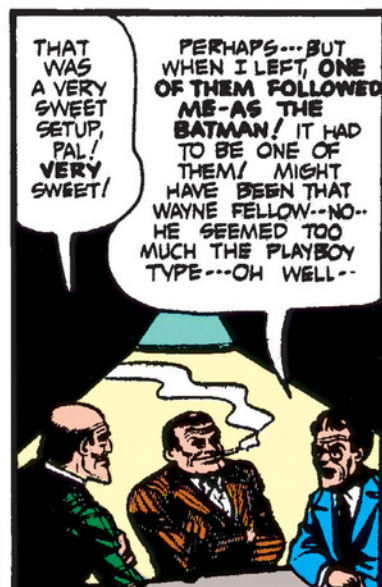
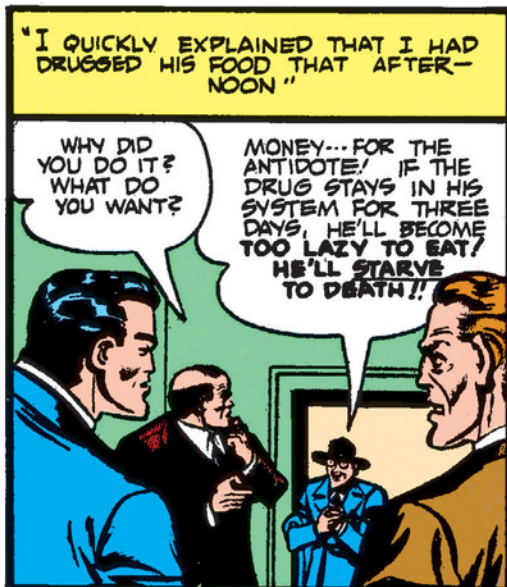
"GET IT? THOSE TWO SMART GUYS HAD BEEN HIDING IN A CLOSET ALL THE TIME!"

"THAT NIGHT, THE USUAL ALL-CLEAR SIGNAL WAS HEARD BY THE BOYS---THE BATMAN HEARD IT, TOO."

THIS IS STATION S-W-A-G! CALLING ALL CROOKS! 5 45! ALL CLEAR-- PROCEED---

5 45.. THAT'S A FUR SHOP AT BOWER AND 15TH STREET.







NO---
YOU
HAVE
IT!



"AT GUN-POINT, I FORCED
HIM TO SWALLOW MY
SERUM!"

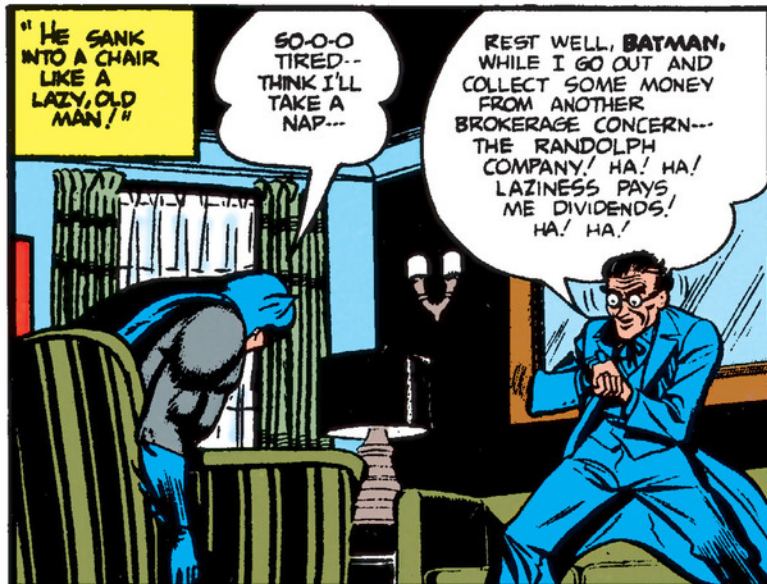
DRINK IT! DRINK
IT OR I'LL BLOW
YOUR HEAD OFF!



"THE POTION TOOK EFFECT ALMOST
IMMEDIATELY!"

YOU--I--WHAT'S WRONG ---?
SUDDENLY FEEL TIRED---LAZY---
NEED A VACATION FROM FIGHTING
CROOKS--OUGHT TO TAKE A
MONTH FISHING!

"HERE WAS A SIGHT NEVER
BEFORE SEEN BY HUMAN EYES!
THE BATMAN---TOO LAZY TO
FIGHT CRIME!"



"HE SANK
INTO A CHAIR
LIKE A
LAZY, OLD
MAN!"

SO-O-O
TIRED--
THINK I'LL
TAKE A
NAP---

REST WELL, BATMAN,
WHILE I GO OUT AND
COLLECT SOME MONEY
FROM ANOTHER
BROKERAGE CONCERN---
THE RANDOLPH
COMPANY! HA! HA!
LAZINESS PAYS
ME DIVIDENDS!
HA! HA!



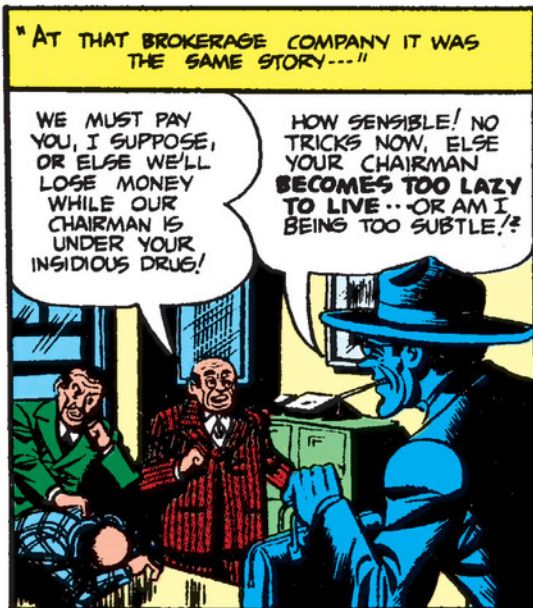
"BUT LITTLE DID I KNOW THE BATMAN!
LATER, I FOUND OUT THAT AS SOON AS I
LEFT ---"

---MUST--
MUST FIGHT
THIS DRUG--
GET--GET
MESSAGE TO
ROBIN---
WIRELESS BOOT
RADIO---MUST WARN
HIM---



"THAT MAN MUST HAVE HAD
TREMENDOUS WILL POWER TO FIGHT
THE DRUG AS WELL AS HE DID!"

ROBIN---
LISTEN
CAREFULLY--
GO-TO-
RANDOLPH
BROKERAGE
COMPANY--
AND---



"AT THAT BROKERAGE COMPANY IT WAS
THE SAME STORY---"

WE MUST PAY
YOU, I SUPPOSE,
OR ELSE WE'LL
LOSE MONEY
WHILE OUR
CHAIRMAN IS
UNDER YOUR
INSIDIOUS DRUG!

HOW SENSIBLE! NO
TRICKS NOW, ELSE
YOUR CHAIRMAN
BECOMES TOO LAZY
TO LIVE--OR AM I
BEING TOO SUBTLE!?



"I FELT QUITE PLEASSED
WITH MYSELF, SO WHEN
A SHINE BOY APPROACHED
ME ON THE RAILWAY
STATION NEARBY---"

SHINE,
MISTER?

WHY NOT? MAKE
THEM LIKE
TWIN
MIRRORS,
BOY!

"LATER, AFTER HAVING PUT A DISGUISE ON IN THE WASHROOM, I WAS SURE NOBODY WOULD RECOGNIZE ME!"

NOBODY WILL TRAIL ME THIS TIME--EVEN THAT SHINE BOY WON'T KNOW ME WITH THESE NEW CLOTHES ON!

"BUT ALAS, I DIDN'T KNOW THAT MY SHOES WERE GIVING ME AWAY TO THAT BOY WHO WATCHED ME FROM BEHIND HIS THICK GLASSES!"

"I WENT HOME EXULTANT! I TAUNTED THE HELPLESS BATMAN. I HAD THE WORLD UNDER MY SCIENTIFIC THUMB!"

HA! HA! NOW I'M GOING TO MAKE REAL MONEY! I'LL SELL MY SERVICES TO A FOREIGN POWER! I'LL MAKE DEFENSE LEADERS LAZY---I'LL MAKE A POWDERED FORM--

---AND SPRAY THE DRUG FROM A PLANE! I'LL MAKE THE NATION HELPLESS! THEY'LL BE LIKE YOU! WHY DON'T YOU FIGHT BACK? YOU CAN'T! HA! HA!

WHO?...

SHINE, MYSTER?

"THAT BOY HIT ME AND MY WHOLE WORLD TOPPLED..."

BE GOOD AND I'LL ONLY HAVE TO HIT YOU ONCE!

"LATER...WHEN I OPENED MY EYES..."

WOW! NO MORE LAZY FEELING! THAT ANTIDOTE FIXED ME UP FINE! I COULD LICK THE WORLD NOW!

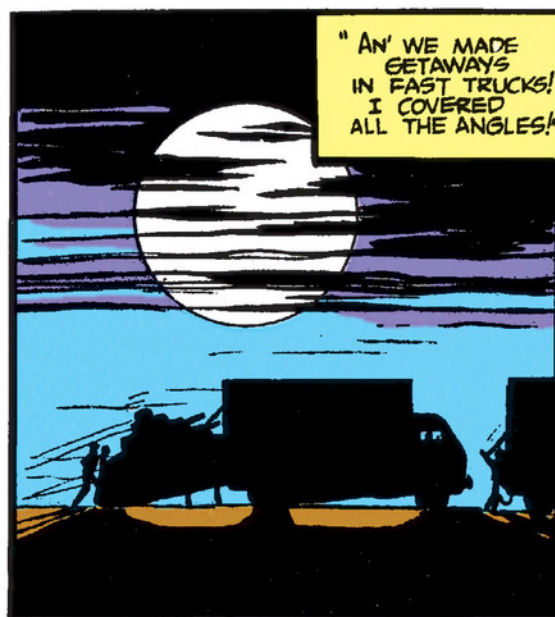
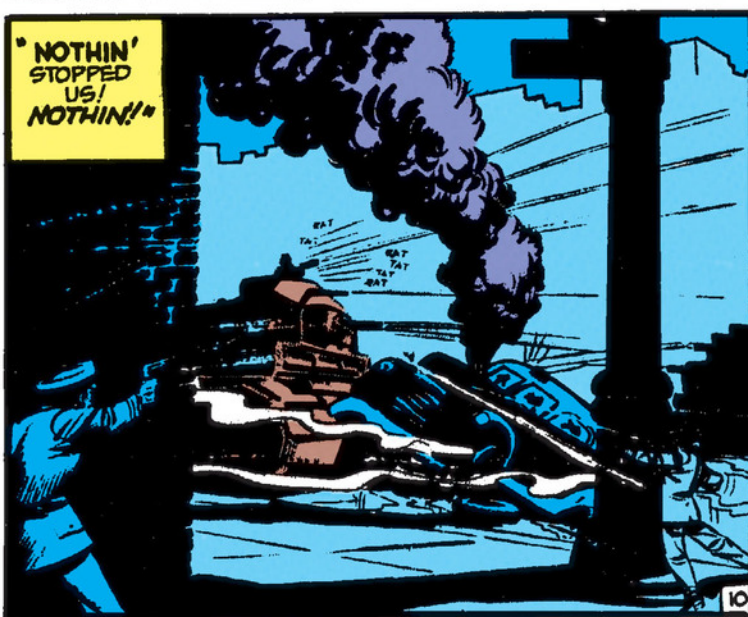
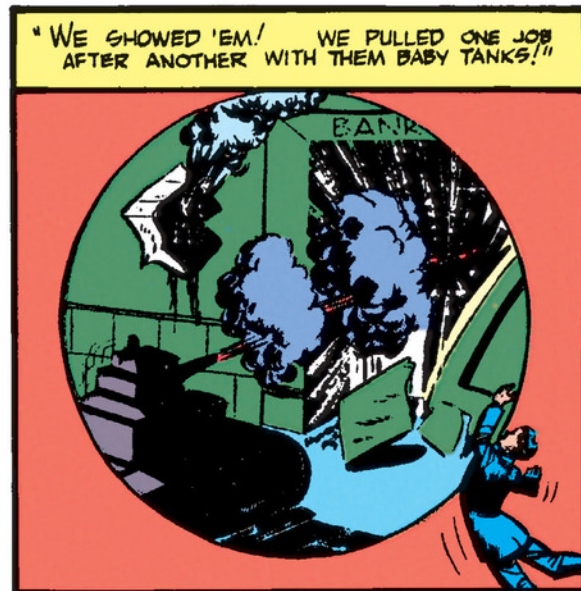
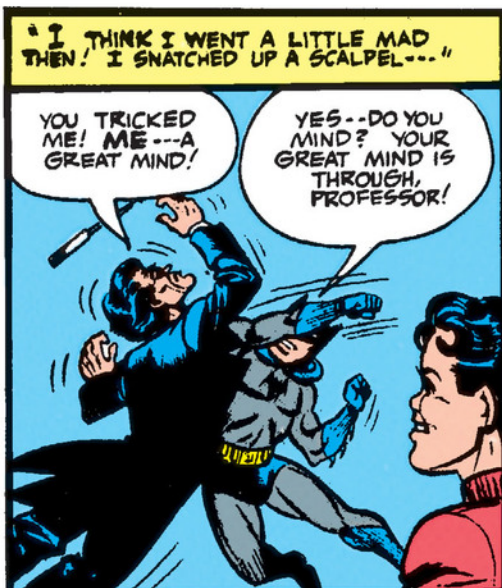
YOU---THE SHINE BOY-- BUT HOW DID YOU RECOGNIZE ME? ...I WORE A DISGUISE!

THAT'S EASY! PUT ON THESE GLASSES AND LOOK AT YOUR SHOES!

"MIRACULOUSLY, UNDER THE GLASSES, MY SHOES GLOWED WITH AN UNEARTHLY LIGHT!"

MY SHOES...THEY SHINE UNDER THESE GLASSES--

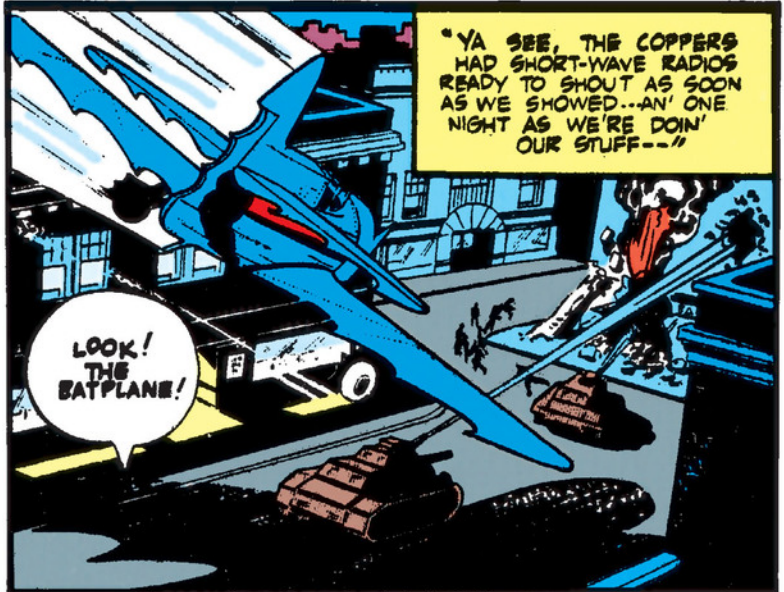
INFRA-RED LENSES THAT REVEAL THE SPECIAL CHEMICAL POLISH I PUT ON YOUR SHOES! YOU CHANGED YOUR CLOTHING--BUT NOT YOUR SHOES! I FOLLOWED THEM!



"SOON THE WHOLE TOWN BEGAN TO SIT UP AN' TAKE NOTICE. WE WERE FRONT-PAGE NEWS!"



"YEP--I HAD EVERYTHING FIGURED OUT...BUT I FORGOT ONE GUY ---- THE BATMAN!"



"YA SEE, THE COPPERS HAD SHORT-WAVE RADIOS READY TO SHOUT AS SOON AS WE SHOWED...AN' ONE NIGHT AS WE'RE DOIN' OUR STUFF--"

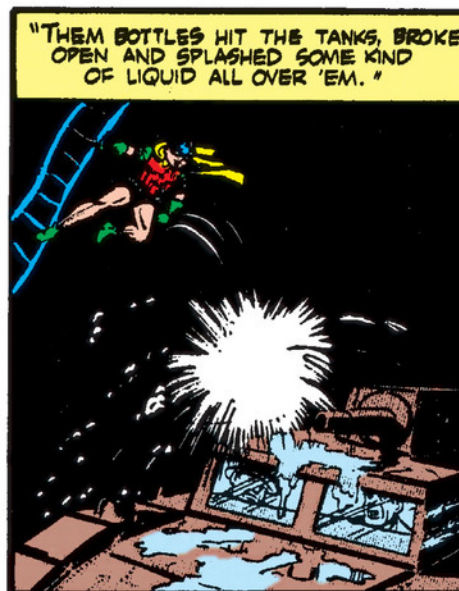


OKAY, ROBIN-- LET 'EM HAVE THE BOTTLES!

A PLEASURE!

"THEM TORCHES HIT---AND BOOM---THE TANKS LIT UP LIKE A ROMAN CANDLE!"

"KNOW WHAT THAT STUFF WAS IN THEM BOTTLES? GASOLINE---THAT'S WHAT, GASOLINE!"



"THEM BOTTLES HIT THE TANKS, BROKE OPEN AND SPLASHED SOME KIND OF LIQUID ALL OVER 'EM.'"



"PRETTY SOON THE INSIDE OF EACH TANK FELT LIKE A HOT STOVE!"

LEMME OUTA HERE!

AN I USTA LIKE BOILED CHICKEN!



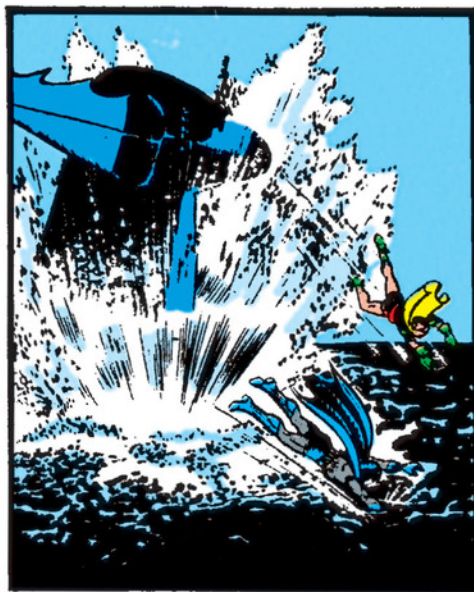
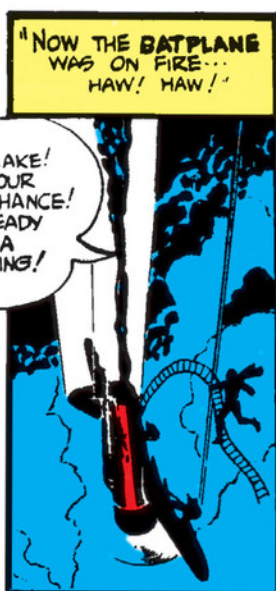
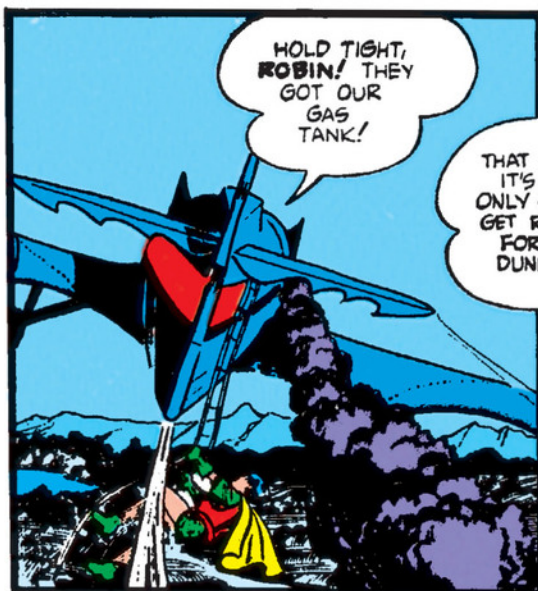
"THEN THAT KID STARTED THROWIN' FLAMING TORCHES AT THE TANKS."



"WE HOPPED OUTA THEM TANKS LIKE THEY WAS POISON---AND INTO OUR TRUCKS! BUT I HAD AN ACE IN THE HOLE, TOO!"

GIVE IT TO 'EM! BLAST 'EM OUTA THE SKY!

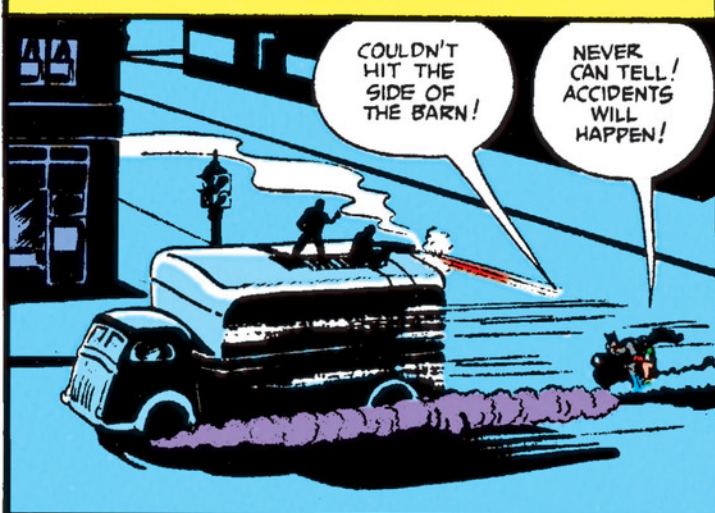
"THE TOPS OF OUR TRUCKS FOLDED BACK. I HAD MACHINE GUNS PLANTED THERE!"



"THEM TWO HAD MORE LIVES THAN A CAT! THEY WERE OKAY...AND READY FOR MORE ACTION!"



"WE COULDN'T SHAKE 'EM! THEY STUCK TO OUR TAIL LIKE GLUE!"



"WE GOT TO THE HIDEOUT AND GOT READY FOR A FIGHT!"

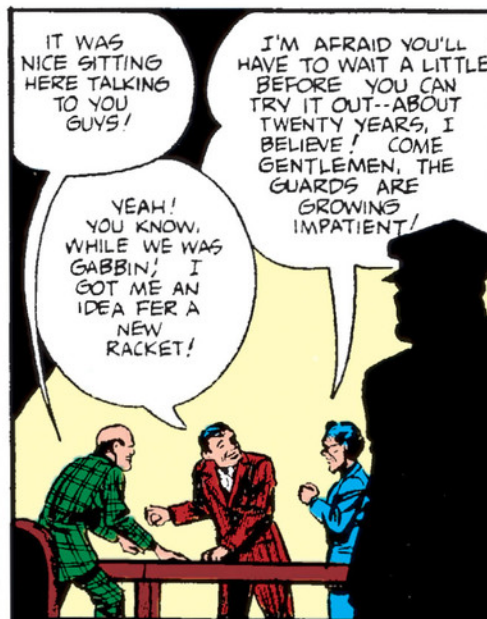
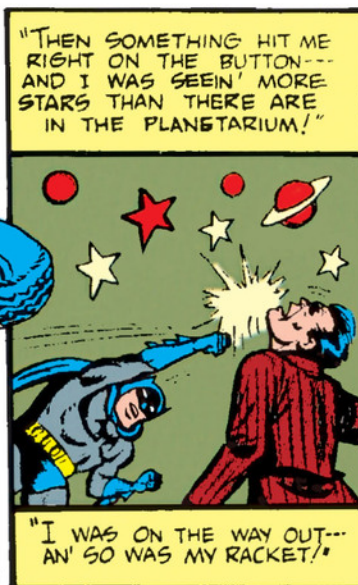
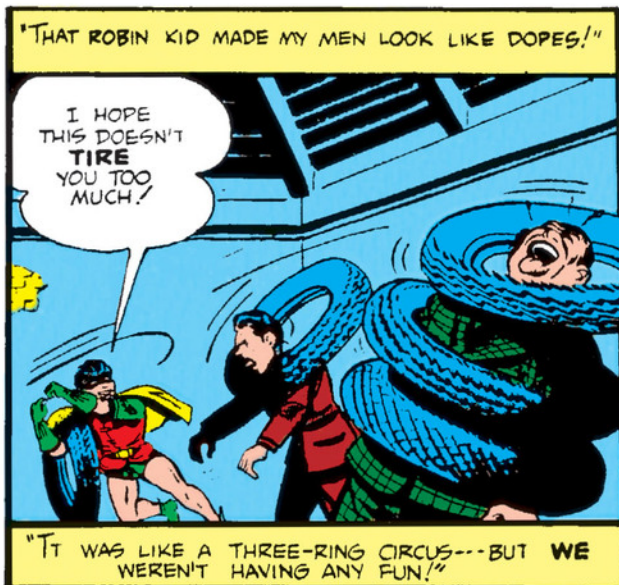
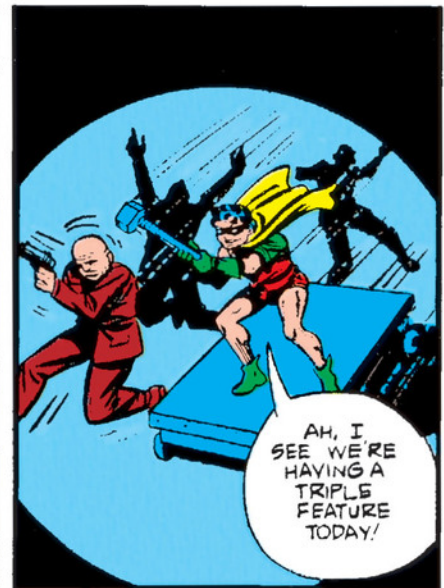
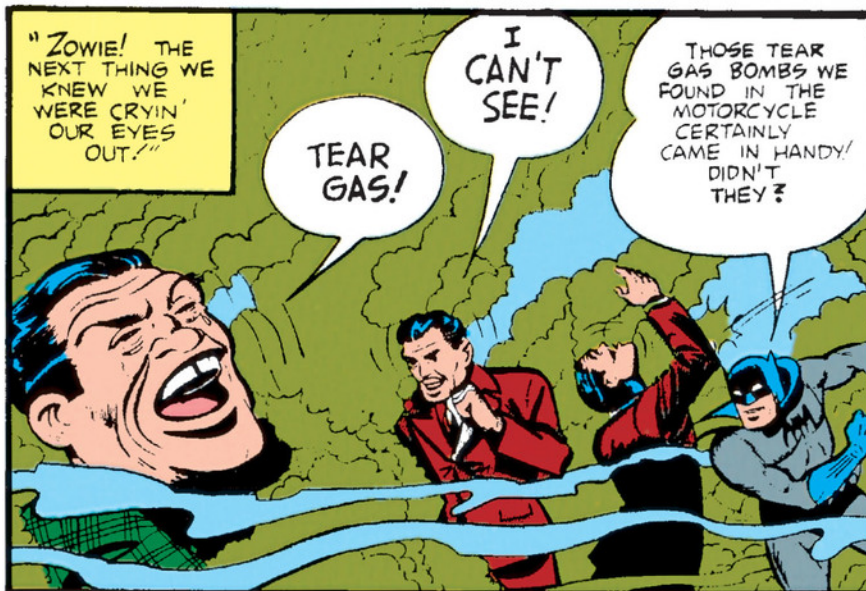


"SUDDENLY, THE DOOR CRASHED RIGHT IN! THAT MOTORCYCLE MUST HAVE HIT IT LIKE A CANNON BALL!"



"COMIN' THROUGH THAT DOOR WAS TROUBLE.... IN CAPITAL LETTERS!"





No. 5

SPRING ISSUE

WORLD'S FINEST COMICS



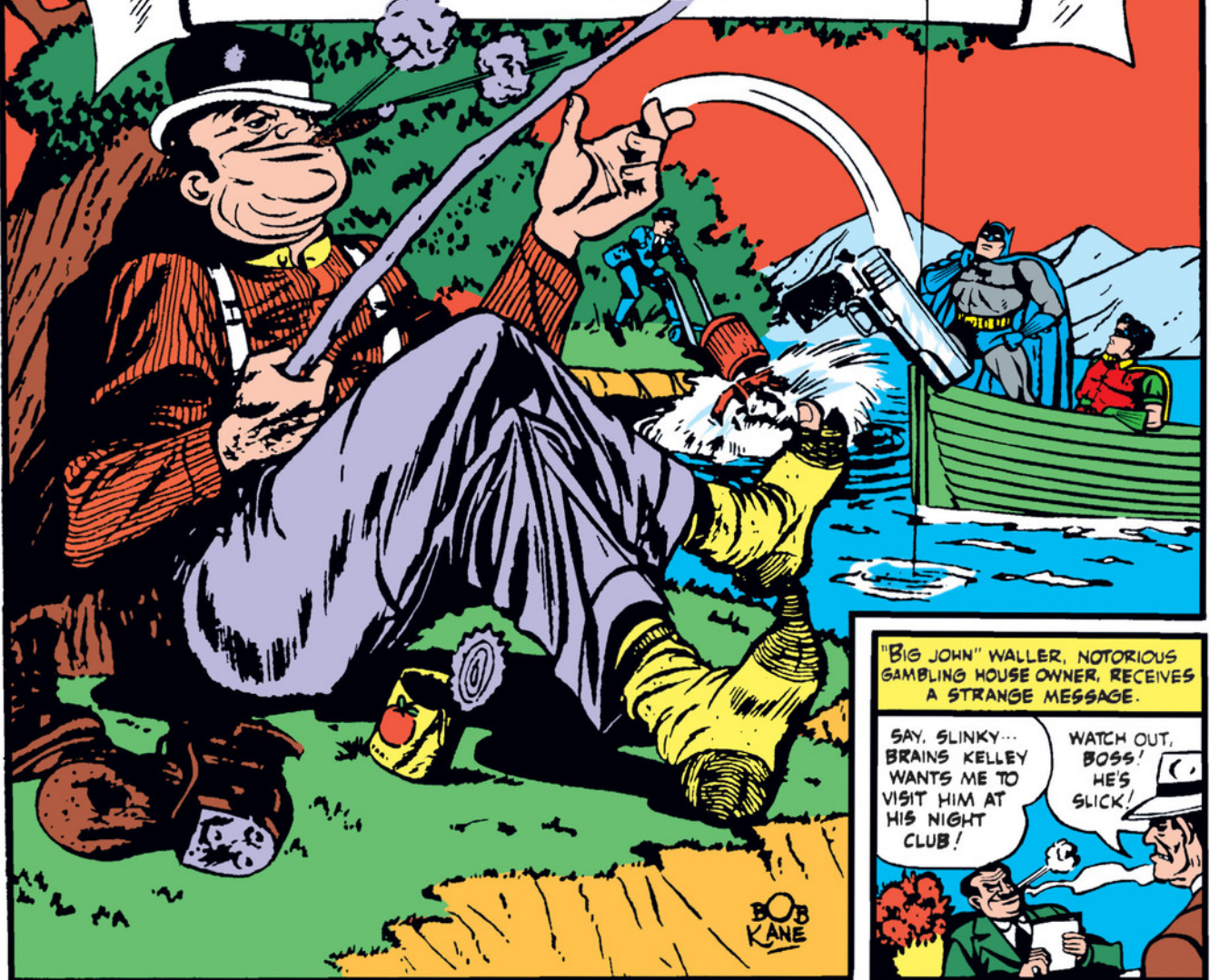
**96
THRILLING
PAGES!**

**SUPERMAN • BATMAN AND ROBIN
SANDMAN • ZATARA
RED, WHITE & BLUE**

BATMAN

WITH
ROBIN

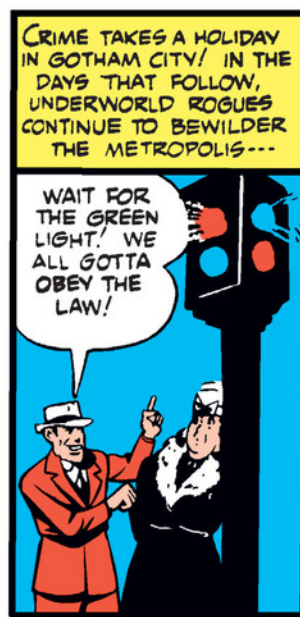
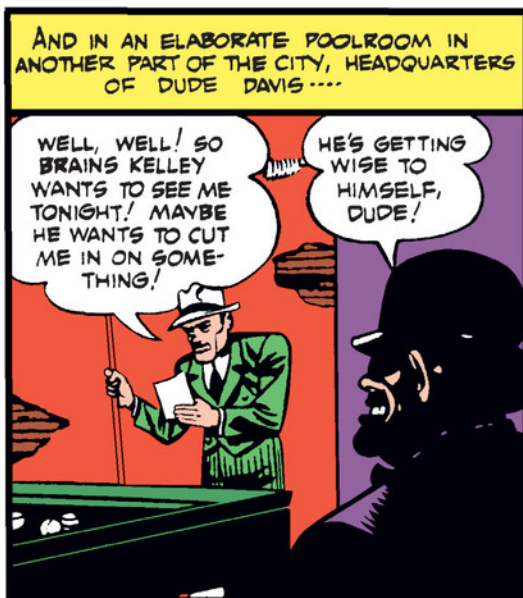
MIDNIGHT IN GOTHAM CITY--- AND CHURCH BELLS CHIME A CURFEW FOR CRIME! ALL OUTLAWRY IS BANISHED! THE CZARS OF CROOKDOM ABANDON THE QUEST FOR EASY MONEY AND TURN SUDDENLY TO HONEST LABOR! AND IN THE DAYS THAT FOLLOW, AN AMAZED METROPOLIS MARVELS AT A MODERN MIRACLE AS MOBSTERS AND MUSCLEMEN "GO STRAIGHT" AND OBSERVE THE LAW TO THE VERY LETTER! YES--- IT LOOKS INDEED AS IF THE FAMED CRIME-BUSTERS BATMAN AND ROBIN OUGHT TO PACK AWAY THEIR CLOAKED COSTUMES IN MOTH BALLS WHEN--- "CRIME TAKES A HOLIDAY."



"BIG JOHN" WALLER, NOTORIOUS GAMBLING HOUSE OWNER, RECEIVES A STRANGE MESSAGE.

SAY, SLINKY...
BRAINS KELLEY
WANTS ME TO
VISIT HIM AT
HIS NIGHT
CLUB!

WATCH OUT,
BOSS!
HE'S
SLICK!



AT POLICE HEADQUARTERS, PUZZLED OFFICERS REMAIN IDLE ----

NOTHING DOING TODAY, CAPTAIN! MY WIFE PHONED TO ASK ME IF I CAN COME HOME EARLY TONIGHT!

LOOKS LIKE WE CAN ALL GO HOME. THERE HASN'T BEEN A SINGLE CRIME IN GOTHAM CITY FOR DAYS!

AND FOR BRUCE WAYNE AND DICK GRAYSON...THE DYNAMIC DUO KNOWN AS THE **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN**--CRIME'S HOLIDAY BREEDS RESTLESSNESS!

MIGHT AS WELL PACK OUR COSTUMES IN MOTH BALLS. EH, BRUCE?

UNLESS WE LEAVE GOTHAM CITY, THERE'S PLENTY DOING IN OTHER CITIES, ACCORDING TO THOSE PAPERS.

BRUCE IS RIGHT! FOR ELSEWHERE IN THE NATION THE CHATTERING GUNS OF GANG-LAND STILL WAGE AN ETERNAL WAR AGAINST JUSTICE--

THAT'S "SCAR" RYAN!

YEAH, THE HEAD OF THE RYAN GANG!

DETROIT----

CHICAGO---

THE DOMINO KILLERS--- UGH--

ALL RIGHT, MEN, START LOOTIN' THAT TRUCK!

SILVER CO

ST. LOUIS---

LET'S HAVE THAT SABLE COAT, LADY!

SHOW ME THAT SAFE-QUICK!

THE HOODED GUNMEN!

HELEN'S FURS

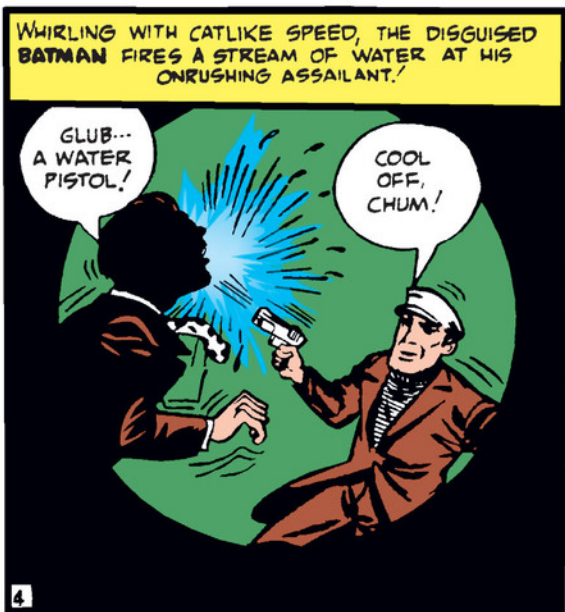
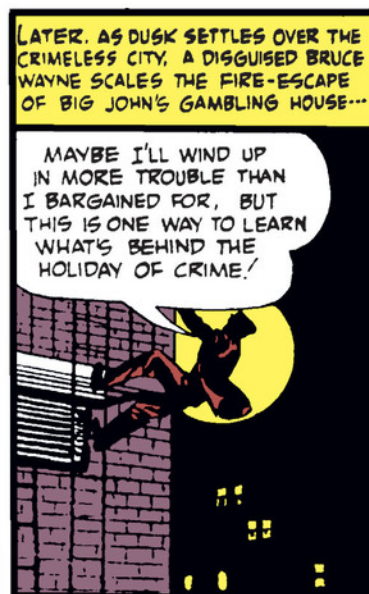
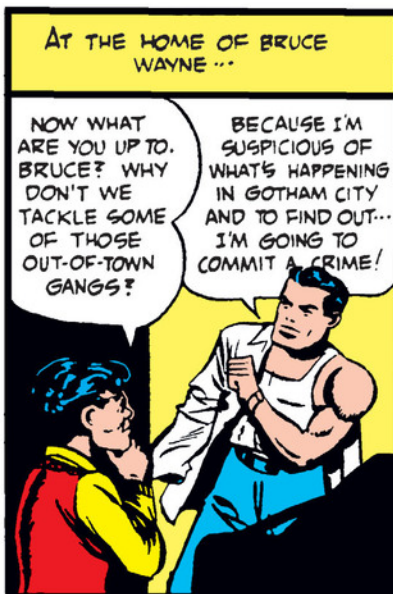
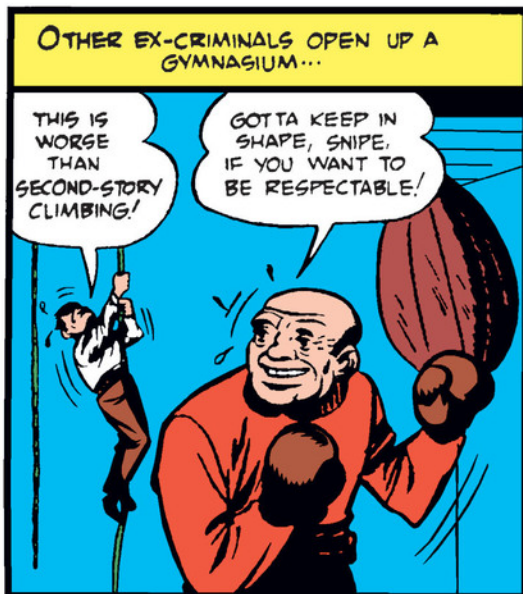
BUT IN GOTHAM CITY, EX-DESPERADOES BECOME "RESPECTABLE BUSINESSMEN"... AND GO STRAIGHT---

THIS SURE IS THE LIFE! YOU GOTTA HAND IT TO BRAINS KELLEY! I'M A BIG "IMPORTER" NOW! HO! HO!

CAN YOU IMAGINE THE FLATFOOT ON THE CORNER SAID HELLO TO ME THIS MORNING!

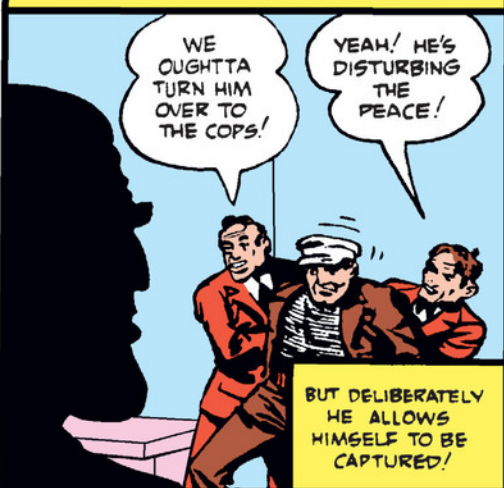
BOY, BEING IN BUSINESS IS SWELL! I NEVER SEEN SO MUCH ICE IN MY LIFE!

AND HANDLING THESE DIAMONDS DON'T MEAN BARS FOR US!





HAD BRUCE BROUGHT THE POWERFUL MUSCLES OF THE **BATMAN** INTO PLAY, HE COULD EASILY HAVE HURLED BIG JOHN ACROSS THE ROOM---



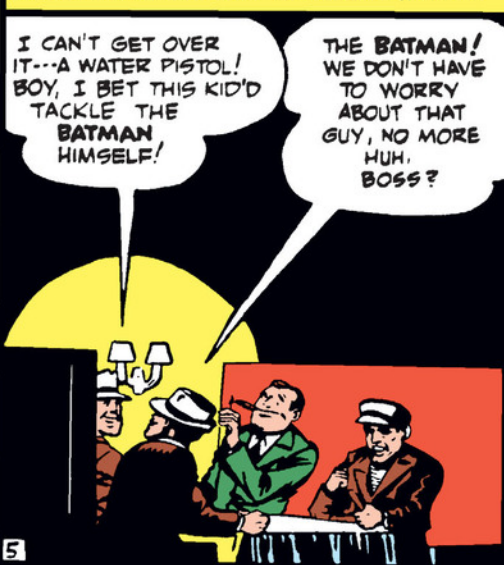
WAIT A MINUTE! THIS GUY HAD ENOUGH NERVE TO HOLD ME UP WITH A WATER PISTOL AND THEN PUT UP A GOOD FIGHT! MAYBE WE CAN USE HIM!



THE GOLD COAST KID, EHE YOU MUST BE A STRANGER, OR YOU'D KNOW THERE'S NO MORE CRIME IN GOTHAM CITY. BUT I NEED ANOTHER MAN ON A CERTAIN JOB. LISTEN, KID---



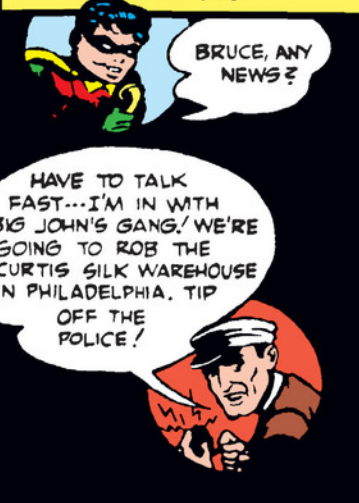
LATER, BRUCE IS TAKEN TO A RESTAURANT---

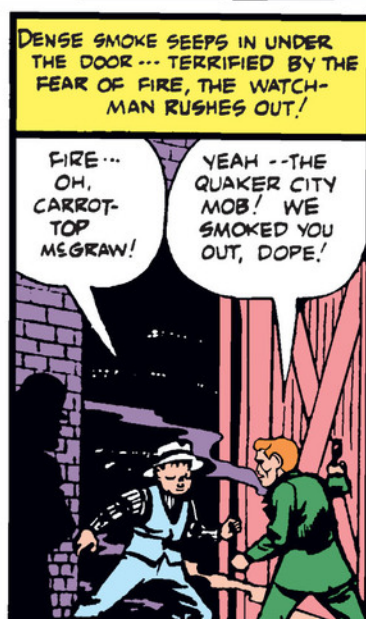
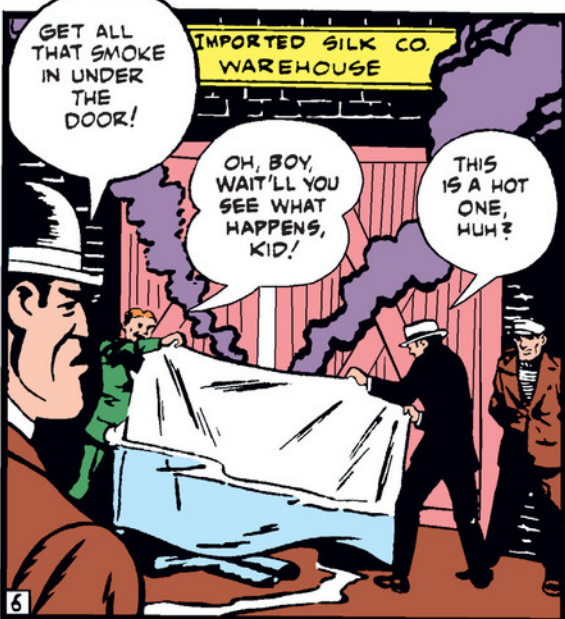
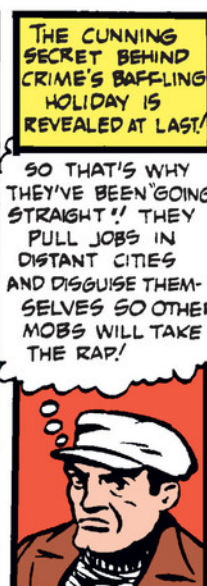
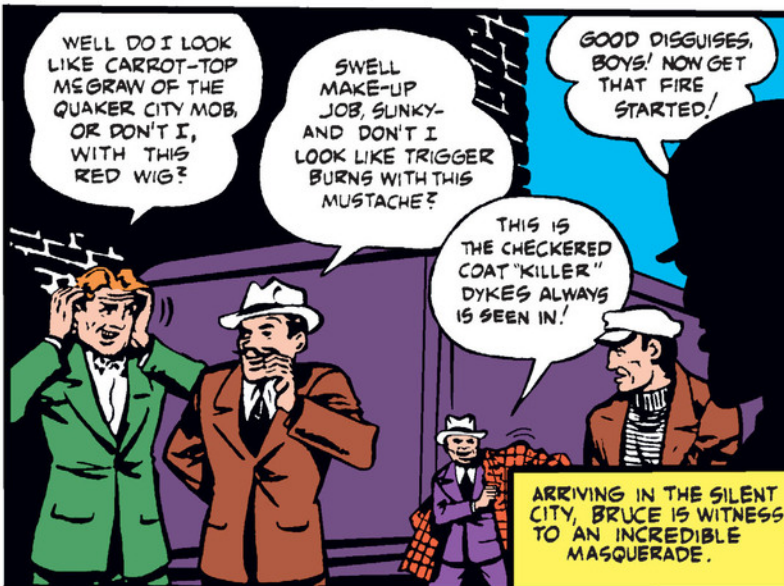
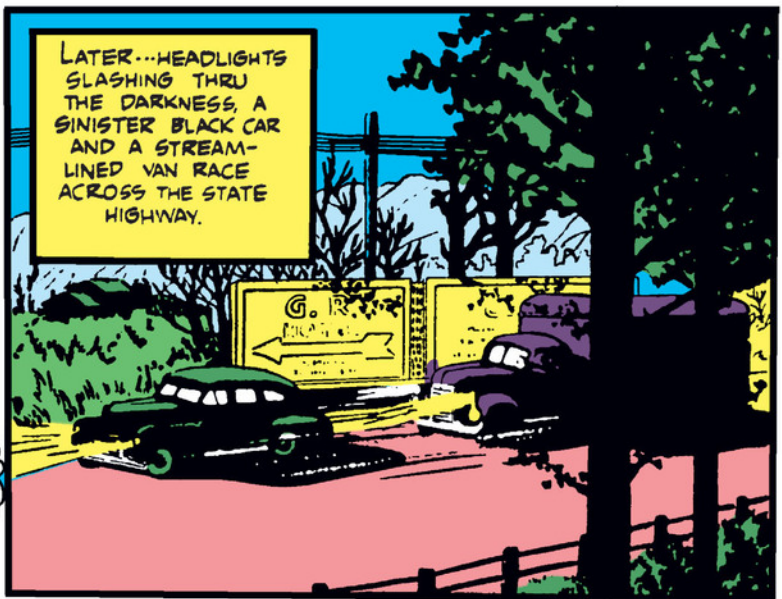


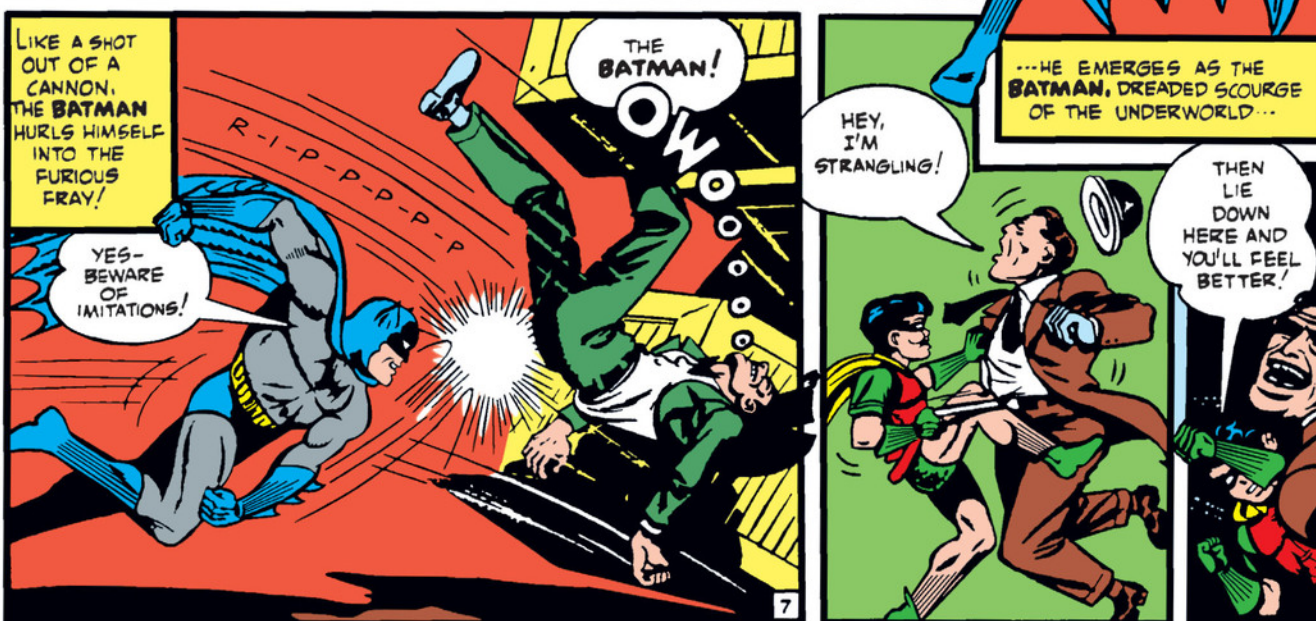
YEAH, WE TIED HIS HANDS WITH THIS HOLIDAY CRIME'S SUPPOSED TO BE TAKING. FINISH UP YOUR MEAL, KID. WE'LL MEET YOU OUTSIDE.

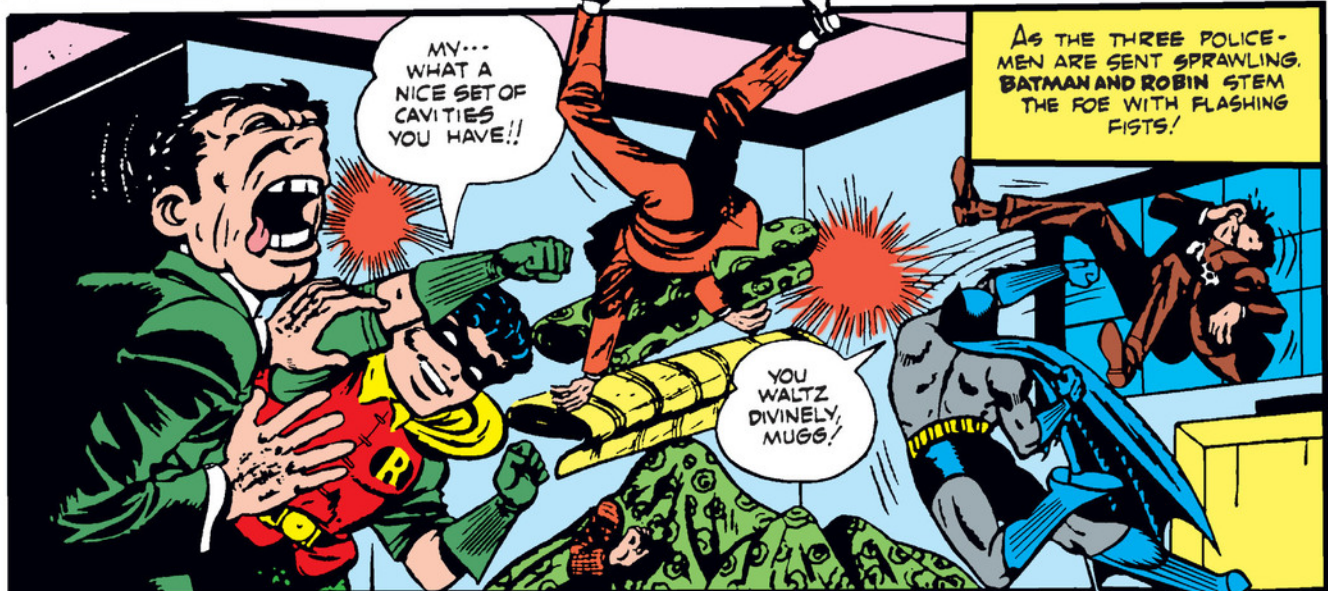
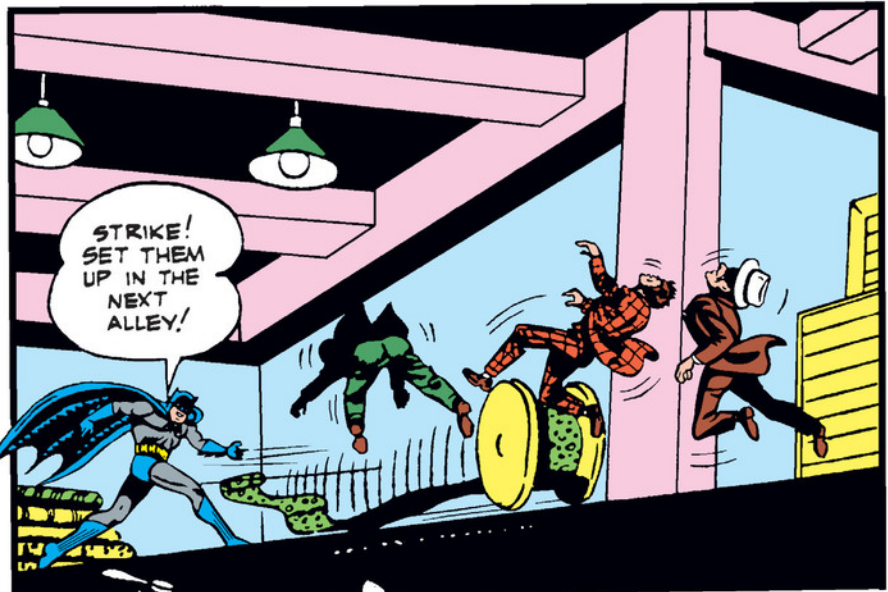


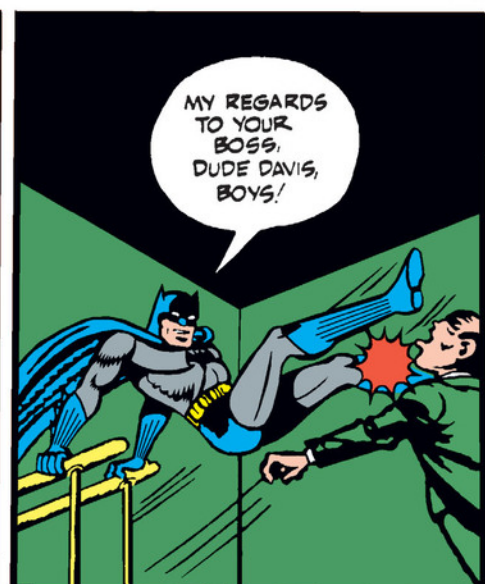
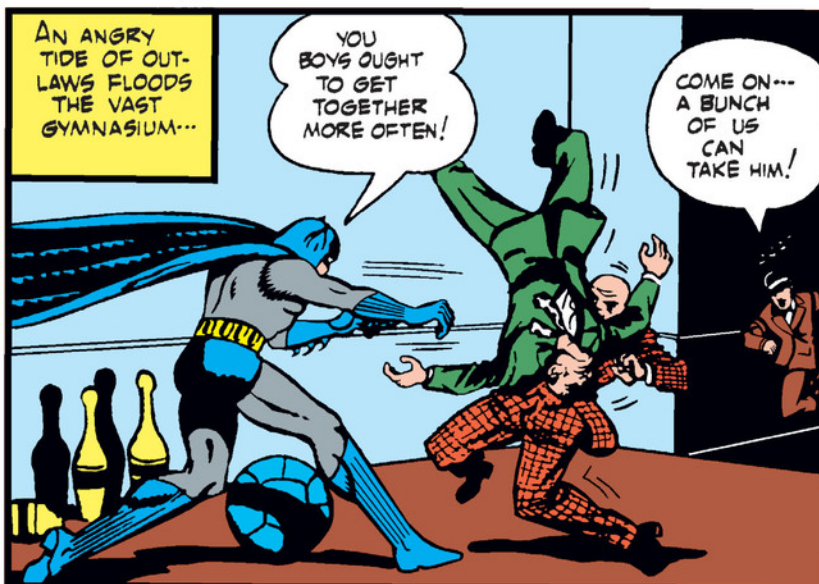
LEFT ALONE FOR A MOMENT, BRUCE SWIFTLY MAKES AN URGENT CALL ON HIS PORTABLE WIRELESS---

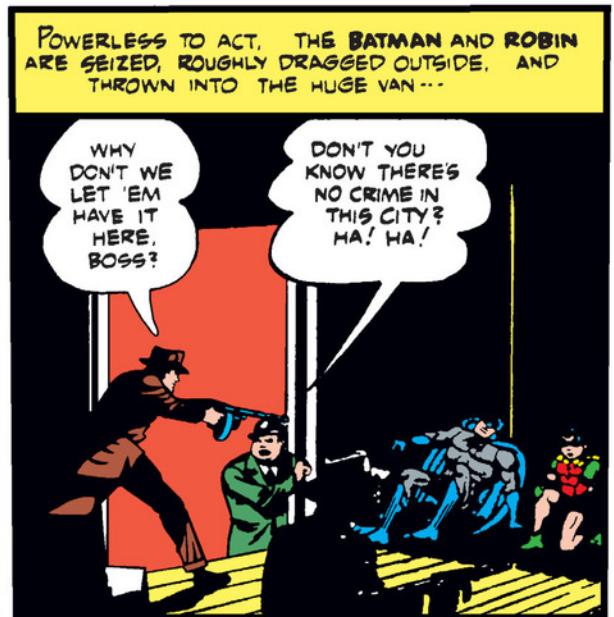
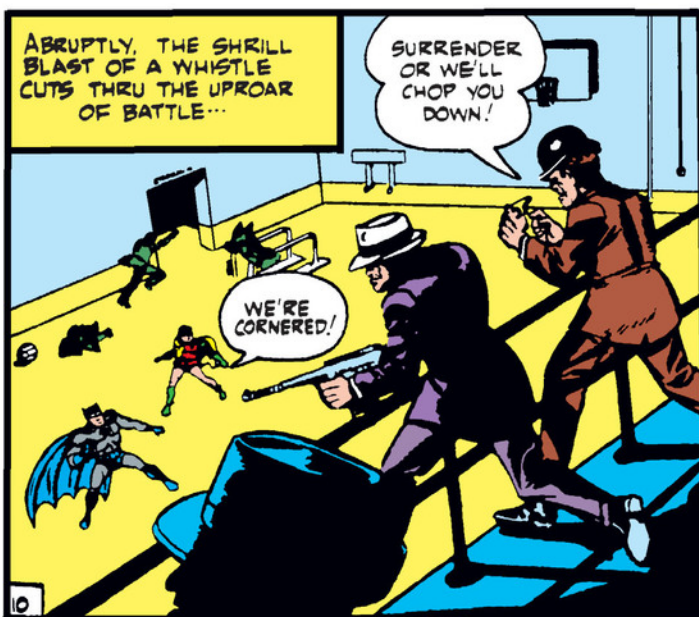
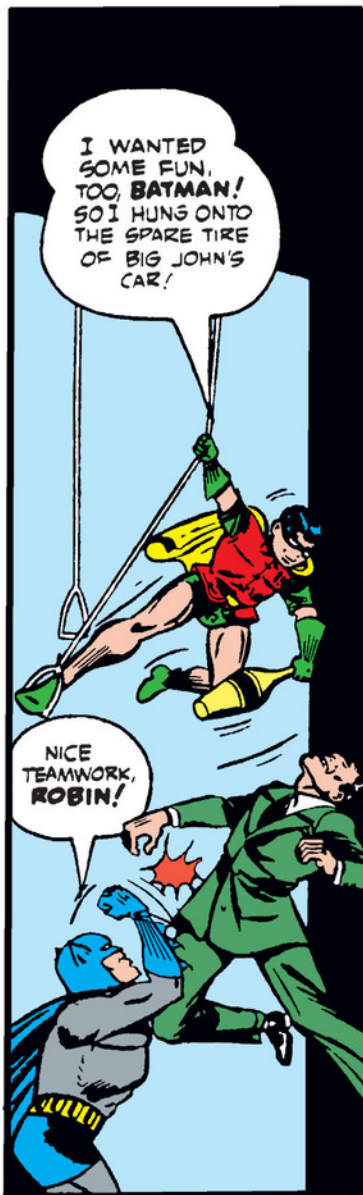


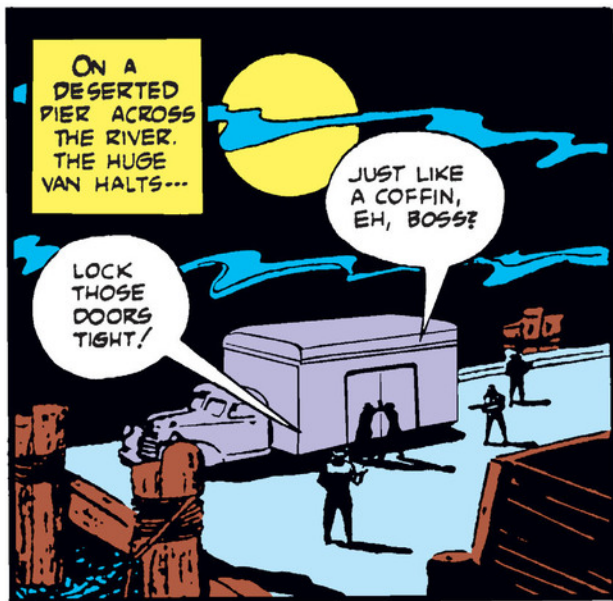








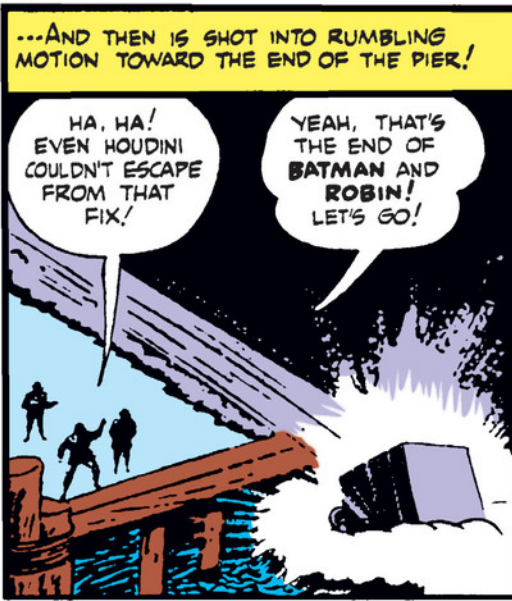




ON A
DESERTED
PIER ACROSS
THE RIVER.
THE HUGE
VAN HALTS---

LOCK
THOSE
DOORS
TIGHT!

JUST LIKE
A COFFIN,
EH, BOSS?

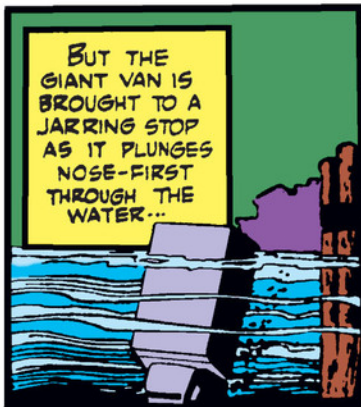


...AND THEN IS SHOT INTO RUMBLING
MOTION TOWARD THE END OF THE PIER!

HA, HA!
EVEN HOUDINI
COULDN'T ESCAPE
FROM THAT
FIX!

YEAH, THAT'S
THE END OF
BATMAN AND
ROBIN!
LET'S GO!

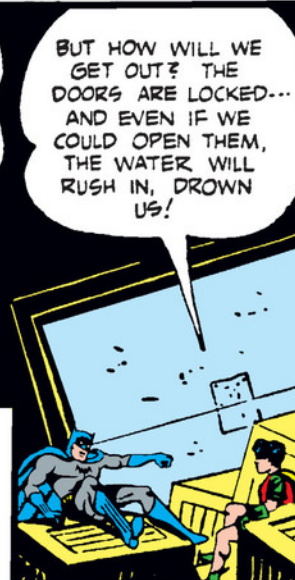
IN THIS,
INDEED,
THE TRAGIC
END OF
THE
FAMED
DYNAMIC
DUO--
A SEALED
TOMB ON
THE
BOTTOM
OF A
RIVER?



BUT THE
GIANT VAN IS
BROUGHT TO A
JARRING STOP
AS IT PLUNGES
NOSE-FIRST
THROUGH THE
WATER---



LUCKY BREAK!
WE DIDN'T GO DOWN
FAR --- THE FRONT
END OF THE VAN
MUST HAVE LANDED IN
A BED OF MUD!

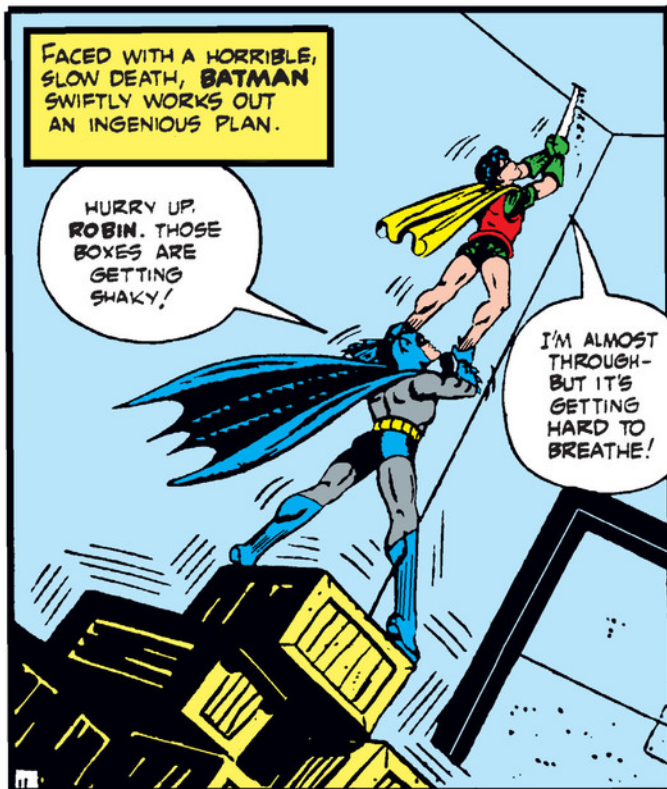


BUT HOW WILL WE
GET OUT? THE
DOORS ARE LOCKED---
AND EVEN IF WE
COULD OPEN THEM,
THE WATER WILL
RUSH IN, DROWN
US!



IF WE CAN ONLY GET UP
TO THE TOP END, WE COULD
SAW A HOLE WITH THIS
BLADE FROM MY UTILITY
BELT!

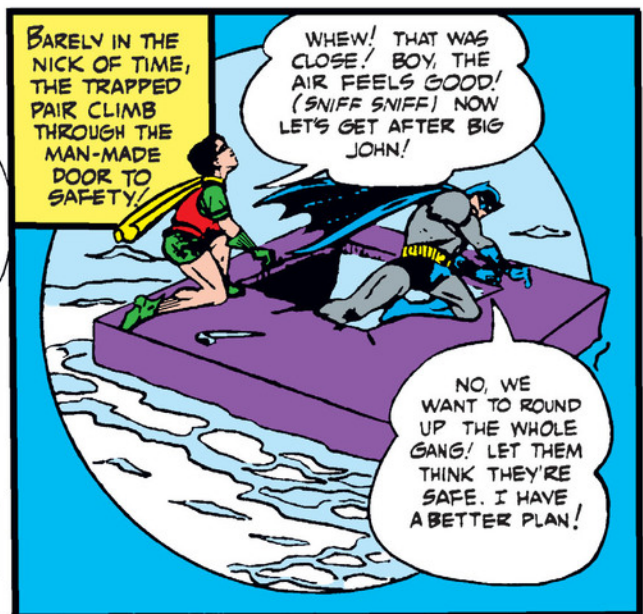
IF! BUT IT'S
TOO HIGH UP---WE
CAN'T REACH IT!
AND PRETTY
SOON WE WON'T
HAVE ANY AIR
LEFT!



FACED WITH A HORRIBLE,
SLOW DEATH, **BATMAN**
SWIFTLY WORKS OUT
AN INGENIOUS PLAN.

HURRY UP,
ROBIN. THOSE
BOXES ARE
GETTING
SHAKY!

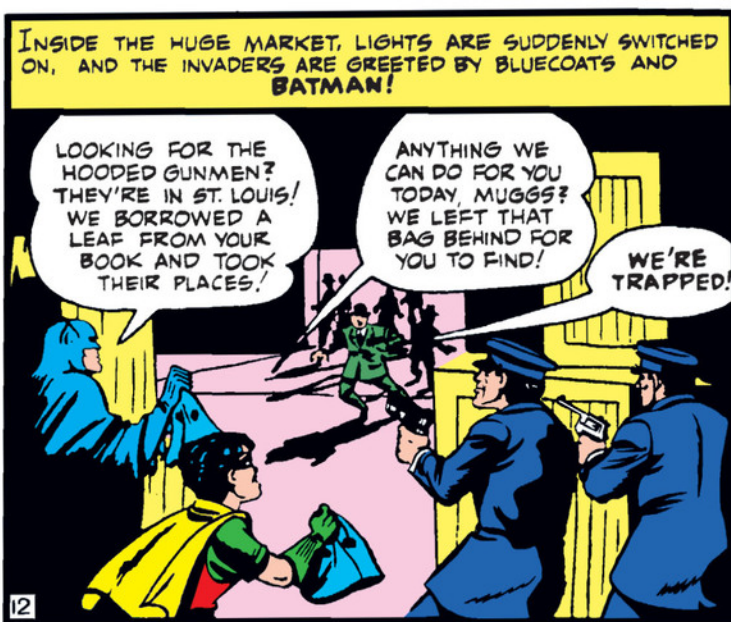
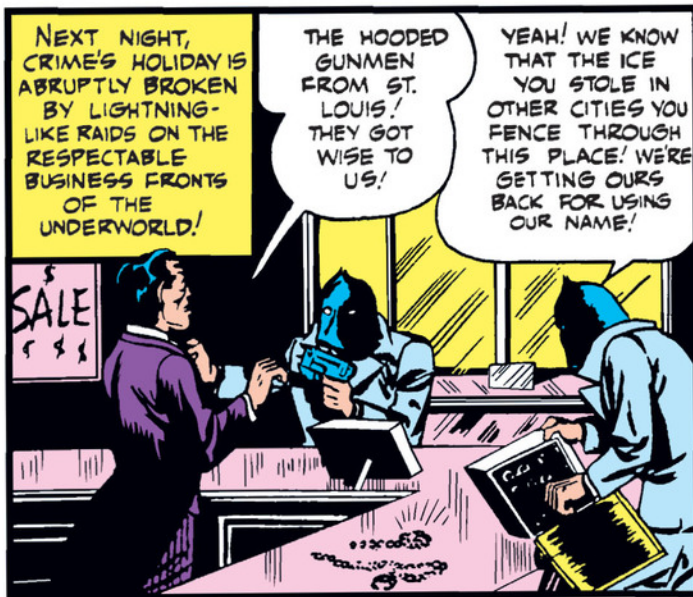
I'M ALMOST
THROUGH--
BUT IT'S
GETTING
HARD TO
BREATHE!

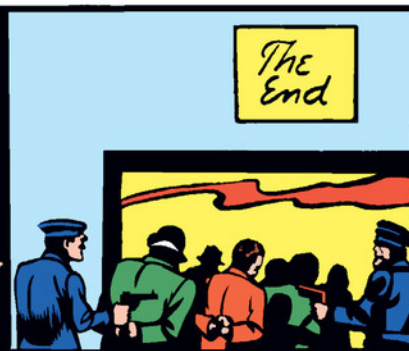
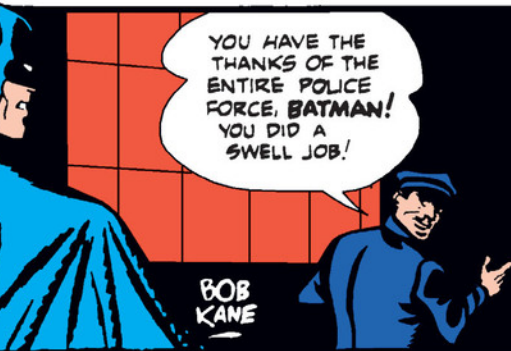


BARELY IN THE
NICK OF TIME,
THE TRAPPED
PAIR CLIMB
THROUGH THE
MAN-MADE
DOOR TO
SAFETY!

WHEW! THAT WAS
CLOSE! BOY, THE
AIR FEELS GOOD!
(SNIFF SNIFF) NOW
LET'S GET AFTER BIG
JOHN!

NO, WE
WANT TO ROUND
UP THE WHOLE
GANG! LET THEM
THINK THEY'RE
SAFE. I HAVE
A BETTER PLAN!





BATMAN and ROBIN zoom thru every issue of DETECTIVE COMICS!



No.62

BATMAN vs. JOKER!



The **BATMAN**

Detective

APRIL

POP

COMICS



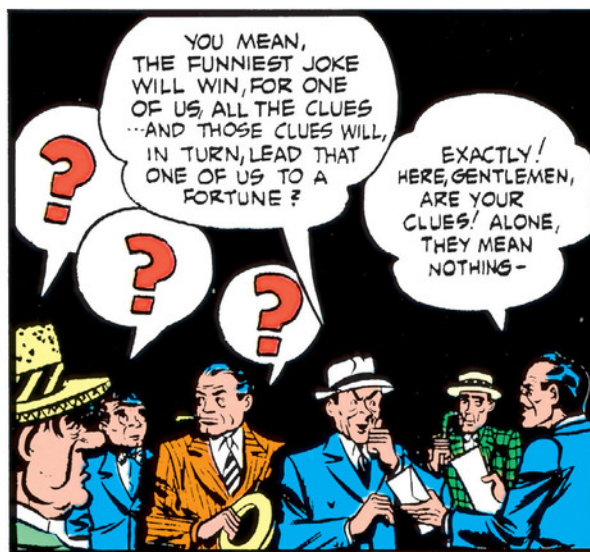
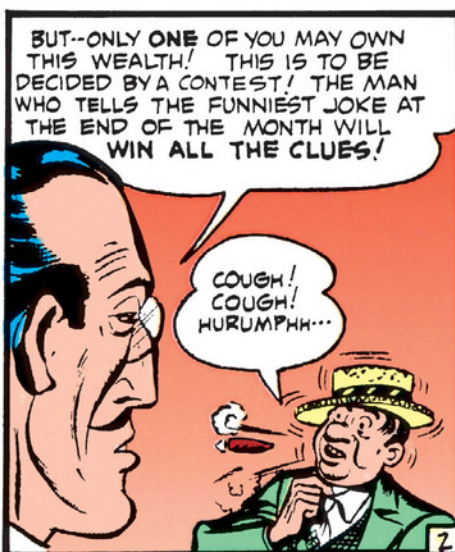
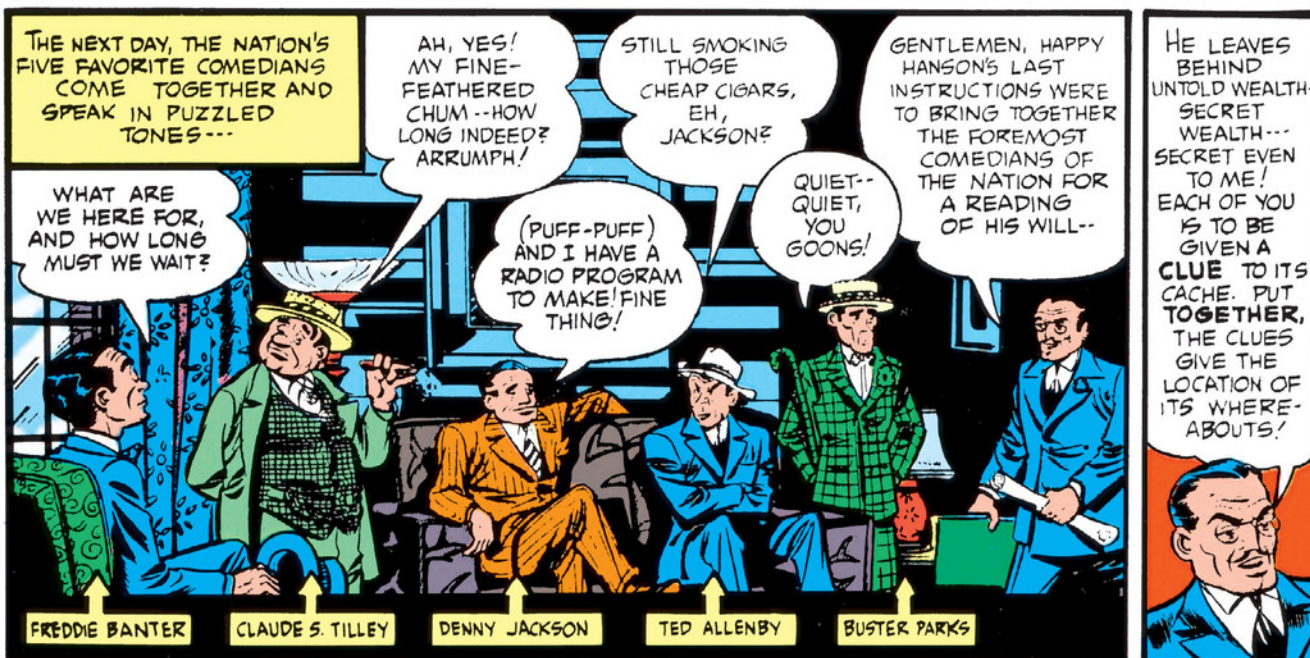
WITH
ROBIN
- THE BOY WONDER -

- THE BOY WONDER -

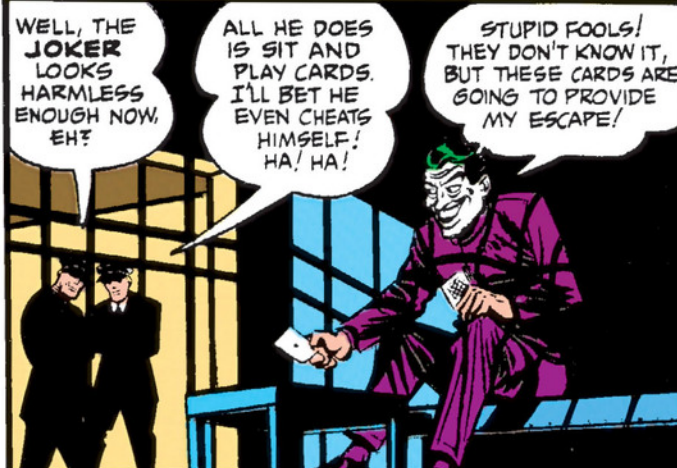
BUT, LIKE TWO JACK-IN-THE-BOXES, THE **BATMAN AND ROBIN** POP UP TO MATCH WITS WITH THE HARLEQUIN OF HATE IN THE SUPREME JEST OF ALL TIME... IN THE STORY OF-"LAUGH, TOWN, LAUGH"!

A NATION
MOURNS AS
HAPPY HANSON,
ITS FOREMOST
COMEDIAN,
LIES
DYING!

SO IT'S MY LAST
SHOW, EH, DOC?...
A FULL HOUSE, TOO!
WHERE'S MY
LAWYER, EH?



① IN A CERTAIN JAIL, MILES AWAY, SITS A MAN- HIS FACE...A DEATH-WHITE MASK. HIS EYES...BURNING, HATE-FILLED! FOR THIS MAN IS ---THE JOKER!



② THAT NIGHT, A NAIL FILE GRIPPED IN LEAN, STRONG FINGERS SCRAPES THE PIPS FROM THE CARDS---



③ STILL LATER, THE HANDS PLUG UP THE CELL DOOR KEYHOLE WITH DIRT AND DUST.



④ AN ACETYLENE TORCH PLAYS ITS TERRIBLE HEAT ON THE SIDE OF THE DOOR--- BUT, UNSEEN, FASTENED TO THE OTHER SIDE---



⑤ AND SO-- AN EAR-DEAFENING DETONATION!



SOON, ELECTRIFYING NEWS IS FLASHED ACROSS THE COUNTRY--

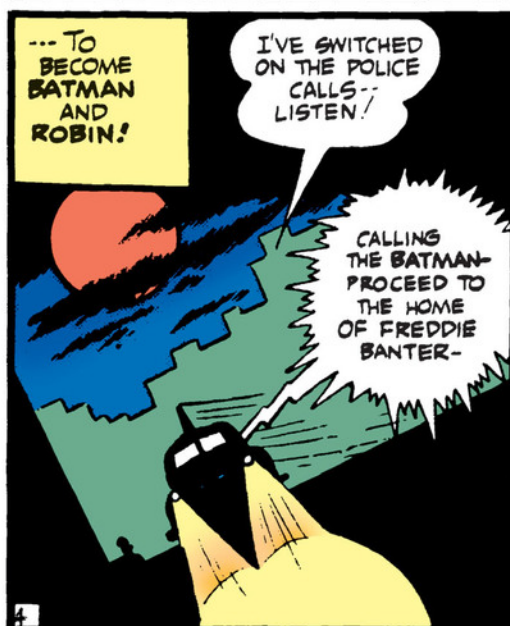
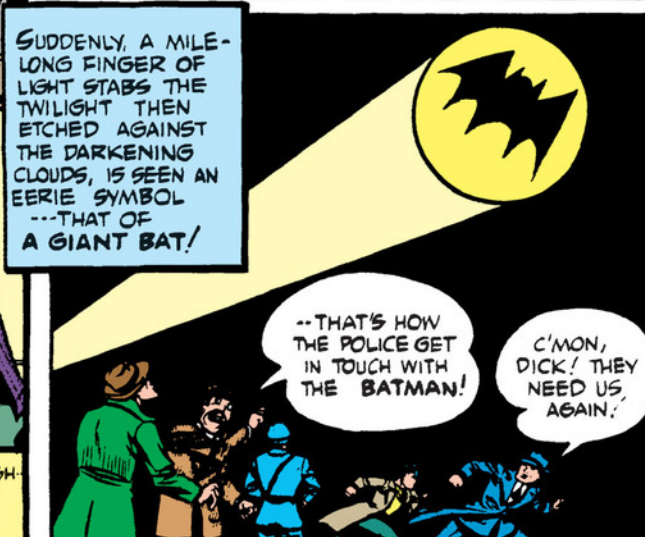


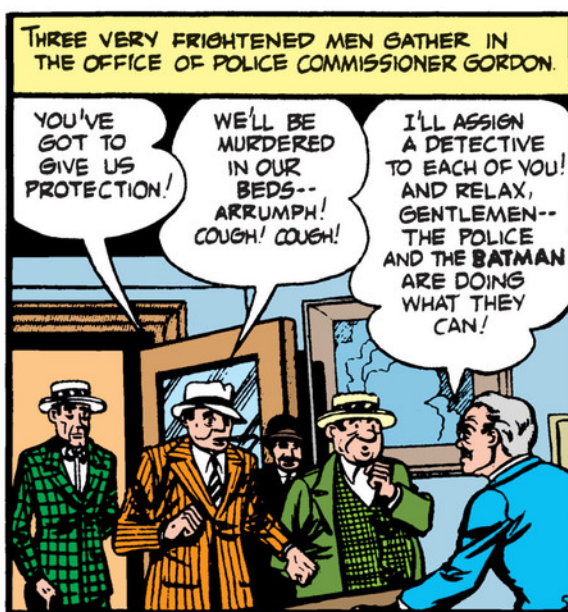
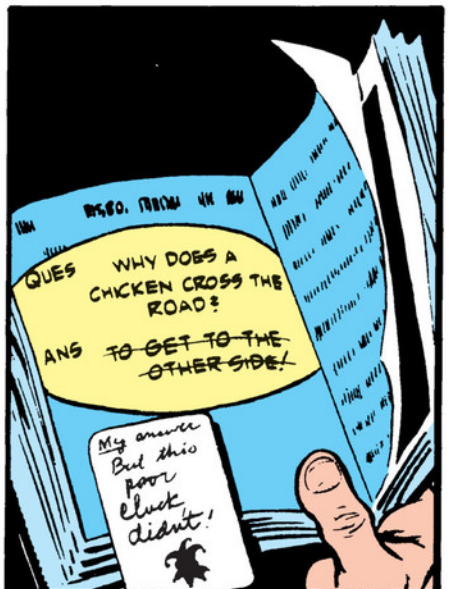
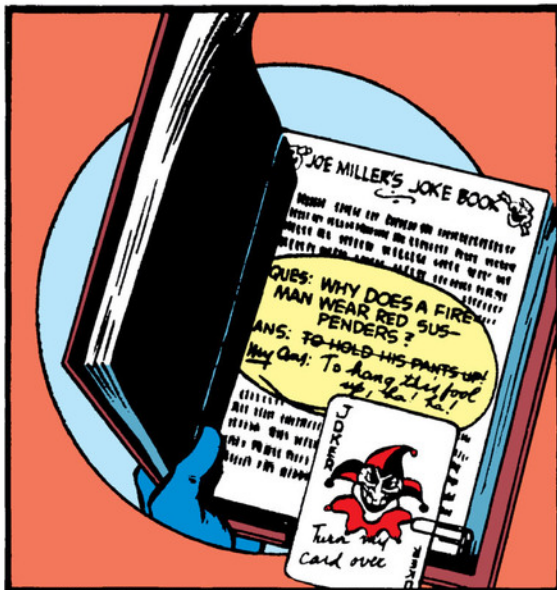
BUT OTHER NEWS COMPETES WITH THE BAD TIDINGS--



AND SOON, THE MAN WHO MADE THE FIRST NEWS READS THE LATER NEWS!







THE HARLEQUIN OF HATE AND HIS HIRED HENCHMEN STRIKE WITHOUT WARNING!



HOLD THAT POSE, GENTLEMEN!

A MOMENT LATER, THE BRAZEN BUFFOON SETS UP A QUEER APPARATUS!



NOTICE--A SMALL GLASS TUBE WITH T.N.T. ON EACH SIDE OF THE METRONOME. THE PENDULUM BEGINS TO SWING--SOON THE CONTINUOUS HAMMERING WILL SHATTER ONE OF THE GLASS TUBES AND THEN---BOOM!

TICK!
TOCK!
TICK!

BUT---HELP ARRIVES IN THE PERSONS OF BATMAN AND ROBIN!



THAT'S A NICE STUNT, JOKER... BUT SOMEHOW I DON'T THINK IT WILL COME OFF!

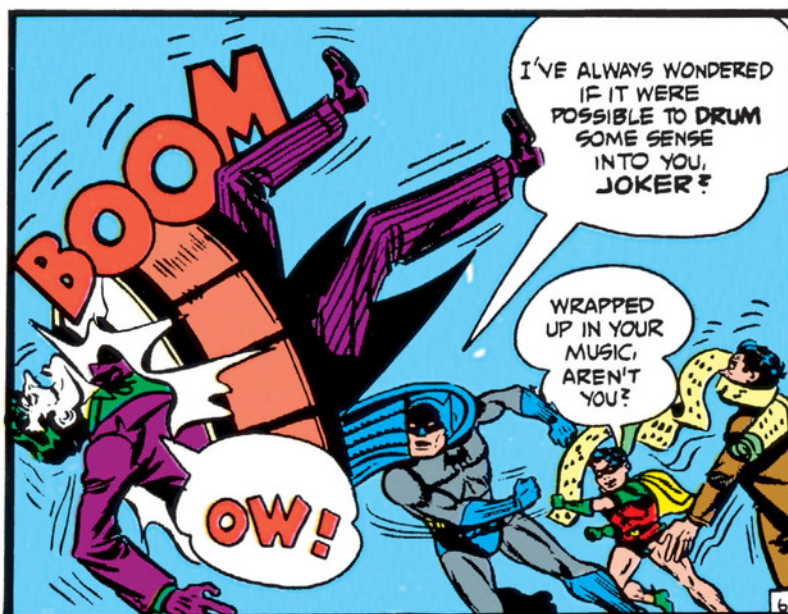
YOU!

THEY'LL DELAY ME! I'VE GOT TO GET AWAY BEFORE THE EXPLOSION!



HERE--- TRY THESE ON YOUR OLD VICTROLA!

MASTER RECORD I MAKE A HIT WITH YOU!



I'VE ALWAYS WONDERED IF IT WERE POSSIBLE TO DRUM SOME SENSE INTO YOU, JOKER?

WRAPPED UP IN YOUR MUSIC, AREN'T YOU?

OW!

MEANWHILE, TERRIBLE AS A MARCH OF DOOM, THE MEASURED BEAT OF THE METRONOME TICKS ON RELENTLESSLY--

LET ME GO! THIS PLACE WILL BLOW UP ANY SECOND, AND WE'LL GO WITH IT!

WHY, JOKER-- YOU'RE ACTUALLY WORRIED! BUT THERE'S REALLY NO NEED!

TICK!
TOCK!
TICK!

EACH WITHOUT THE OTHER'S KNOWLEDGE, TWO FIGURES CATAPULT FORWARD SIMULTANEOUSLY AT THE FATAL METRONOME--

YOU, TOO?

SO IT SEEMS!

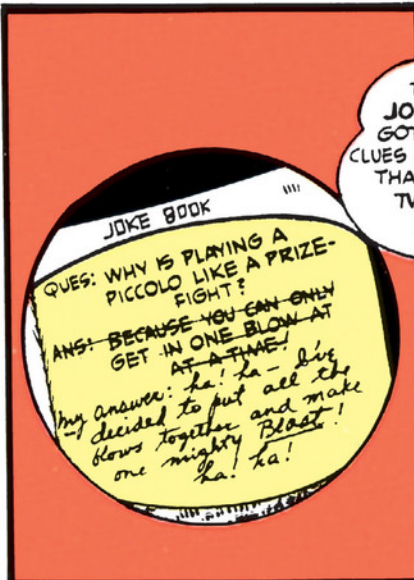


TWO ANXIOUS HANDS HALT THE RELENTLESS PENDULUM AS IT SWINGS FORWARD LIKE THE REAPER'S SCYTHE!



WE MADE IT!

AND WHILE WE DID, THE JOKER'S ESCAPED AND HE'S TAKEN JACKSON'S CLUE! WONDER WHAT HIS JOKE WAS THIS TIME?



QUES: WHY IS PLAYING A PICCOLO LIKE A PRIZE-FIGHT?
ANS: BECAUSE YOU CAN ONLY GET IN ONE BLOW AT AT-A-TIME!
My answer: ha! ha - live decided to put all the blows together and make one mighty Blast! ha! ha!

LATER, AT POLICE HEADQUARTERS-

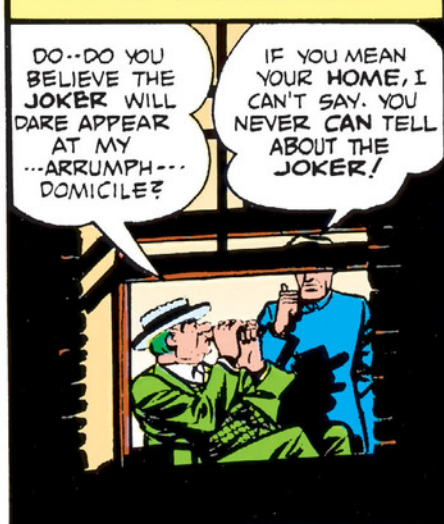


THE JOKER'S GOT THREE CLUES ALREADY! THAT LEAVES TWO TO GO!

I SUGGEST THAT YOU HAVE YOUR POLICE GUARD CLAUDE TILLEY WHILE ROBIN AND MYSELF GUARD BUSTER PARKS!

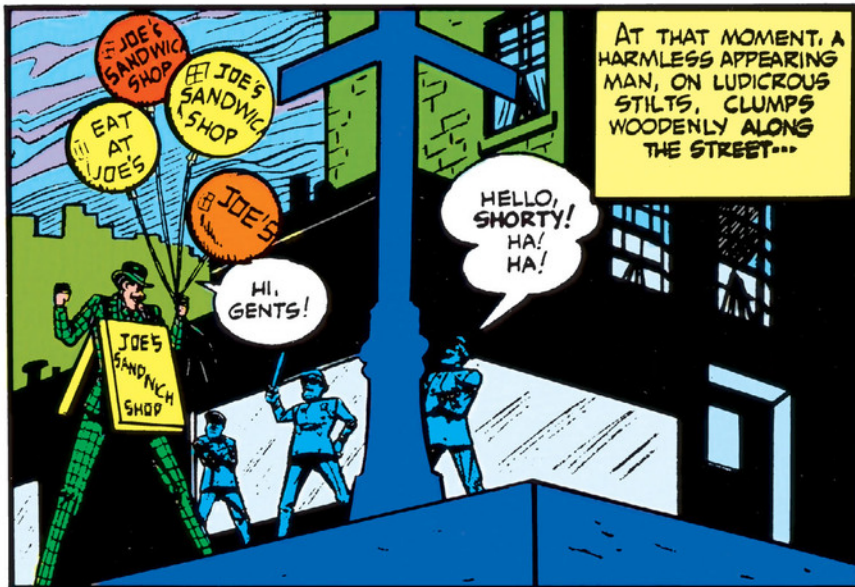
SIMPLE BUT EFFECTIVE! IT SHOULD STOP THE JOKER... WE HOPE!

THE NEXT DAY -- AT THE FIRST-FLOOR HOME OF CLAUDE S. TILLEY---



DO--DO YOU BELIEVE THE JOKER WILL DARE APPEAR AT MY ...ARRUMPH--- DOMICILE?

IF YOU MEAN YOUR HOME, I CAN'T SAY. YOU NEVER CAN TELL ABOUT THE JOKER!



AT THAT MOMENT, A HARMLESS APPEARING MAN, ON LUDICROUS STILTS, CLUMPS WOODENLY ALONG THE STREET---

HELLO, SHORTY! HA! HA!

HI, GENTS!

BUT ONCE AROUND THE CORNER AND OUT OF SIGHT OF THE POLICE, HE OPENS HIS COAT---AND WITH THE AID OF A TUBE WOUND ABOUT HIS BODY, HE BLOWS UP MORE RUBBER BALLOONS--



AS THE BALLOONS DRIFT INTO TILLEY'S ROOM, A GAS BEGINS TO SEEP OUT OF PUNCTURED CORKS IN THE BALLOON NECKS---



WHAT'S WRONG? HA! HA! I CAN'T STOP LAUGHING? HA! HA!

HO! HO! HO!

LAUGHING GAS!

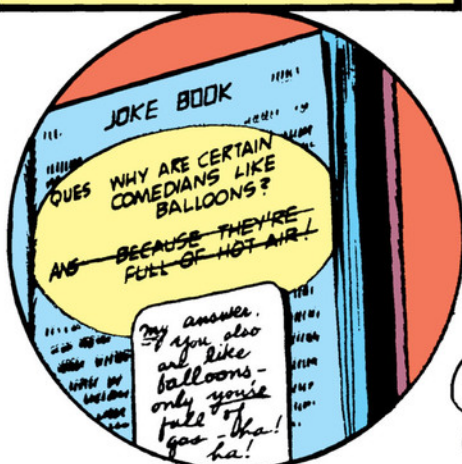
CALMLY, ALMOST LAZILY, THE MAN ON STILTS REACHES IN AND PICKS THE VALUABLE CLUE FROM THE HELPLESS COMEDIAN'S POCKET!



I'M GLAD YOU THINK IT'S SO FUNNY NOW. I DON'T BELIEVE YOU WILL LATER ON, THOUGH! HA! HA!

YOU GUESSED IT! THE MAN IS ... THE JOKER!

LATER THE RECOVERED POLICE FIND...THIS!



AT THAT PRECISE INSTANT, AT THE HOME OF BUSTER PARKS, HIRELINGS OF THE JOKER ALSO USE GAS IN THE GRIM JESTER'S NEXT STEP ON HIS PROGRAM OF CRIME!

WHAT A CHANCE TO PLUG THE BATMAN!



YOU DAFFY? COPS WILL BE RUNNING ALL OVER THE JOINT NOW. RIGHT NOW OUR JOB IS TO GET PARKS AT THE 34TH STREET PIER TO THE JOKER! C'MON!

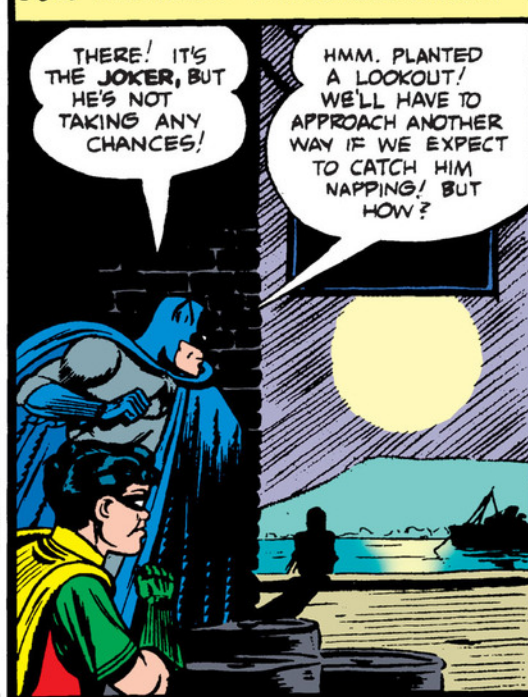
BATMAN INSTINCTIVELY FIGHTS OFF THE RAPIDLY DESCENDING MENTAL FOG AND LURCHES BLINDLY TO A WINDOW!



MOMENTS LATER, A REVIVED DUO DARTS TOWARD THE WAITING BATMOBILE!



SOME TIME LATER...AT A DISTANCE AWAY!...



HOW TO EFFECT A STEALTHY, SUPER-SILENT RESCUE? THE ANSWER-- FROM THE BATMOBILE COME STRANGE SHOES

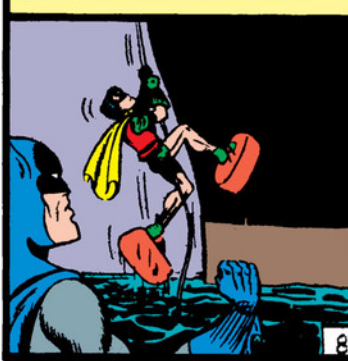


AIR-INFLATED RAFT-SHOES ARE READIED FOR ACTION!

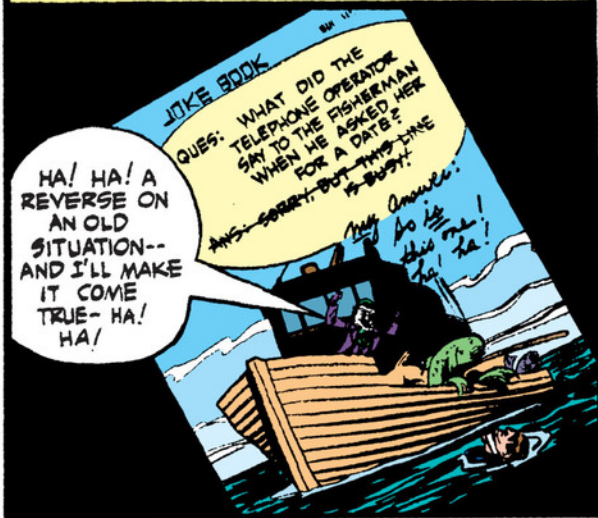
SILENT AS THE MOON'S PATH UPON THE WATERS, THE SHADOWY PAIR SLINK ACROSS THE WAVES ON FLOATING FEET!



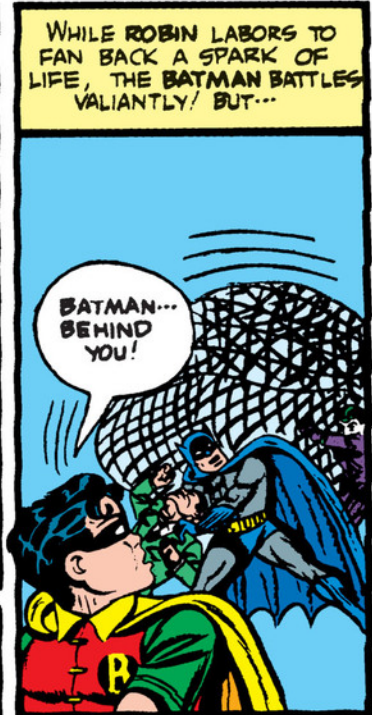
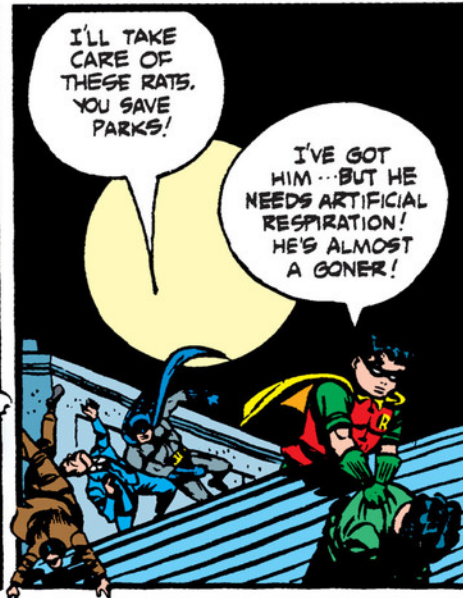
THE NOISELESS SEA TRAIL BRINGS THEM RIGHT BENEATH THE BOWS OF THE JOKER'S FISHING SMACK!



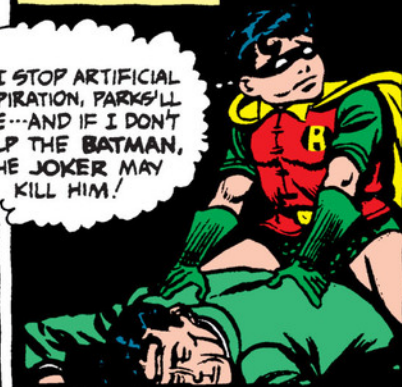
THE JOKER'S GRISLY HUMOR!



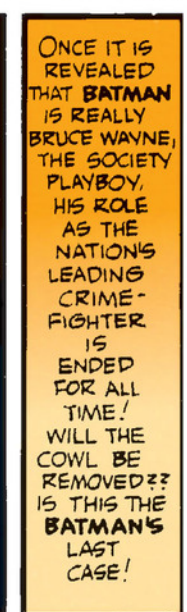
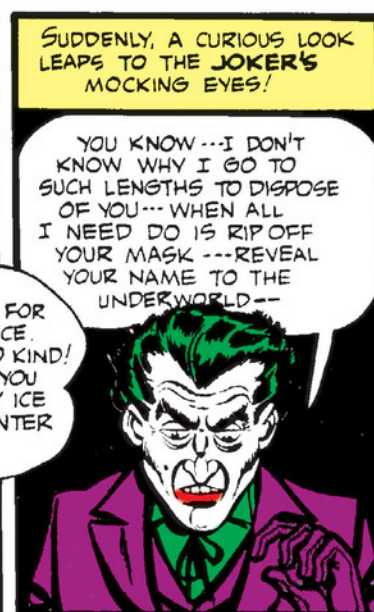
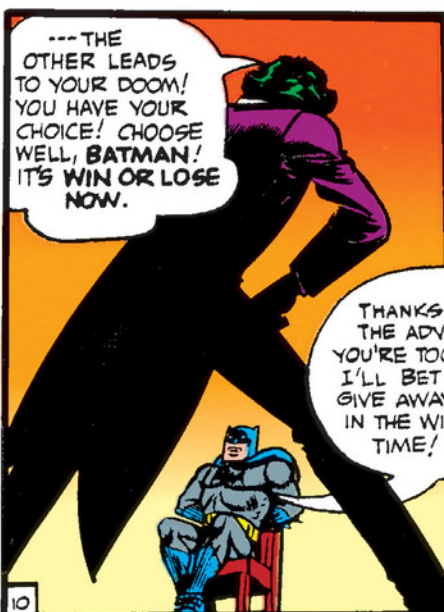
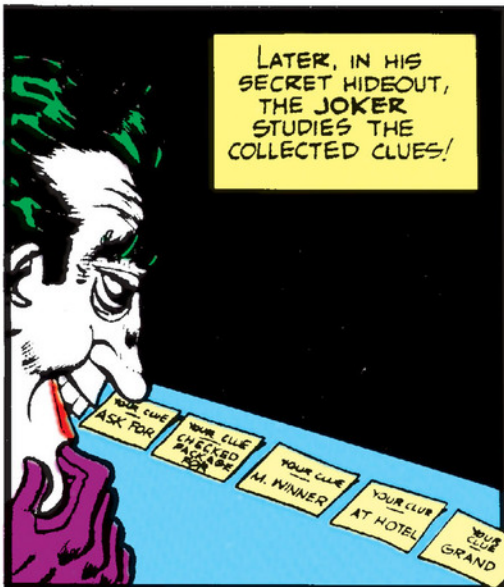
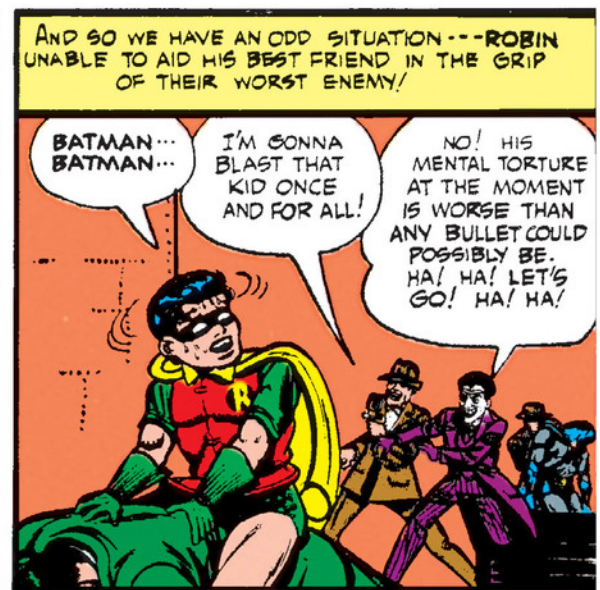
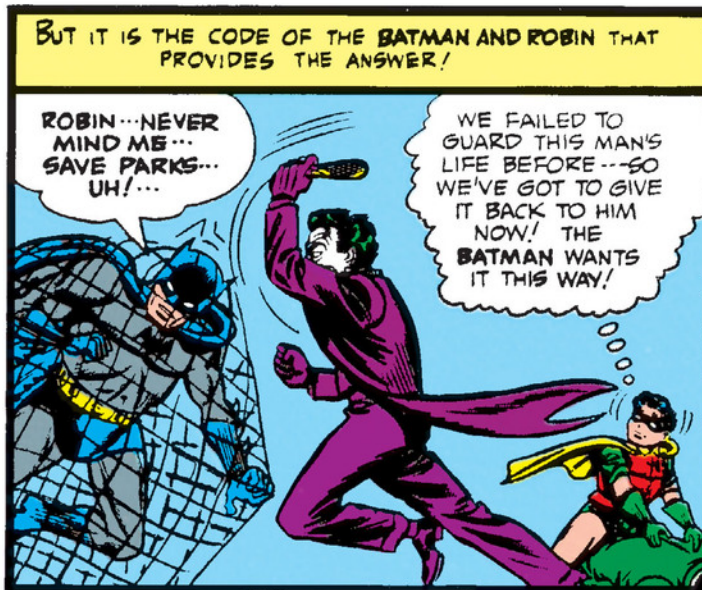
TWO PURPOSEFUL AVENGERS CHARGE FORWARD, LUNGING HEADLONG AT THE KILLER CLOWN!

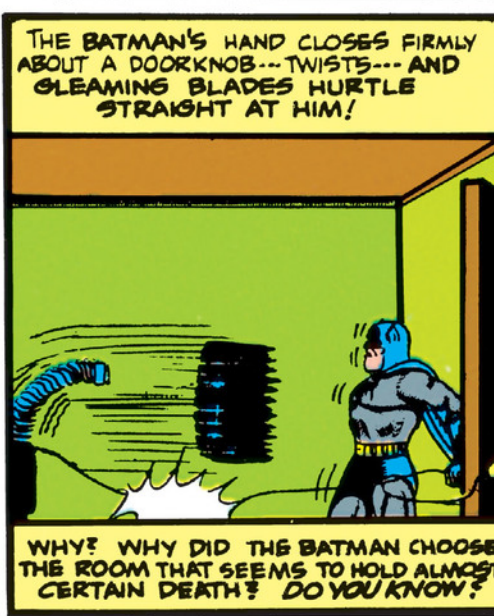
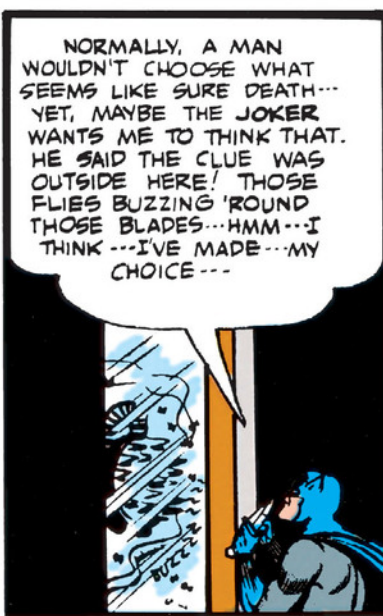
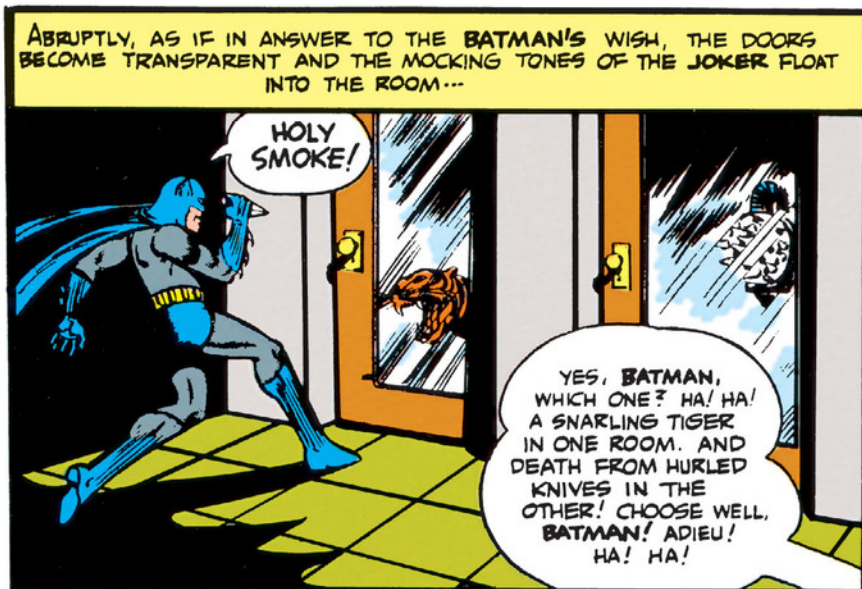
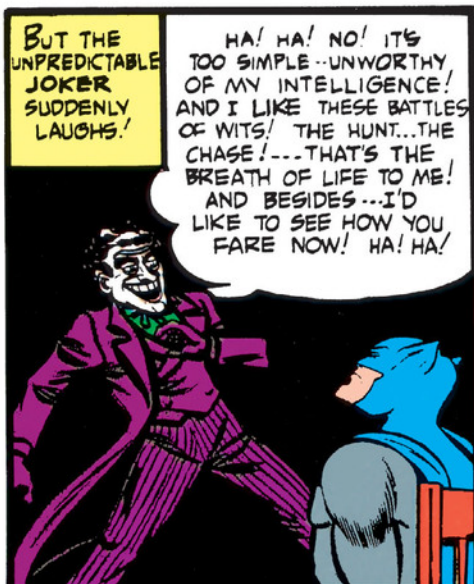


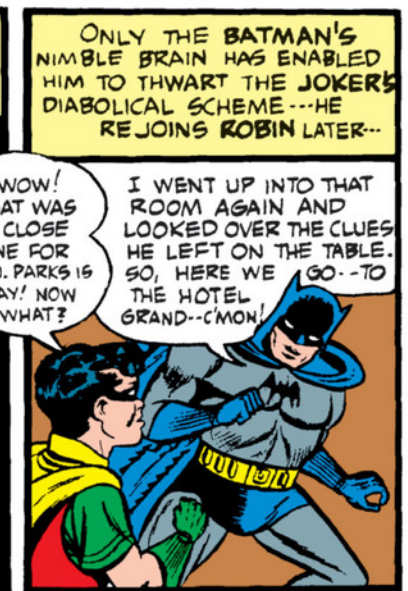
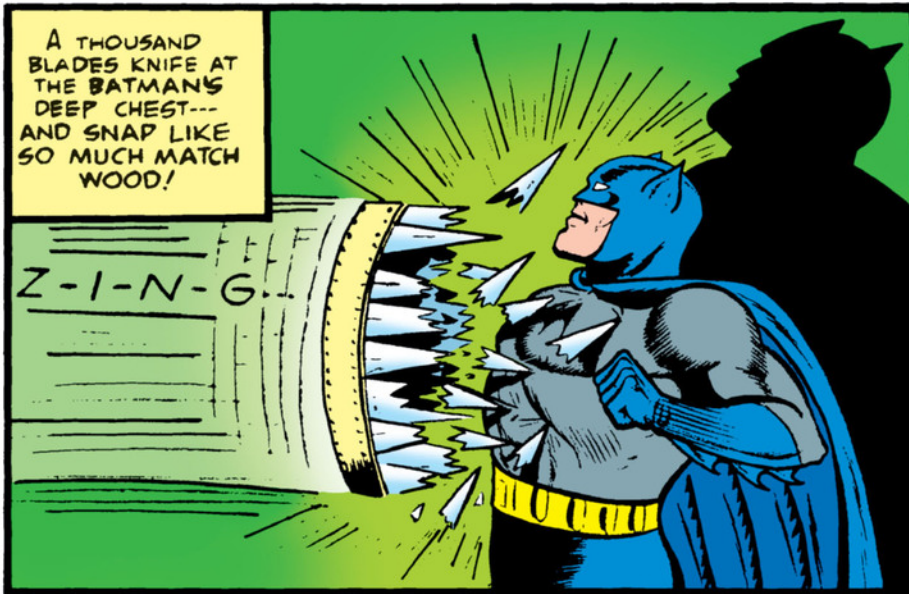
INSTINCTIVELY, ROBIN STARTS TO GIVE HIS FRIEND AID, BUT SUDDENLY STOPS SHORT AS HE REALIZES---

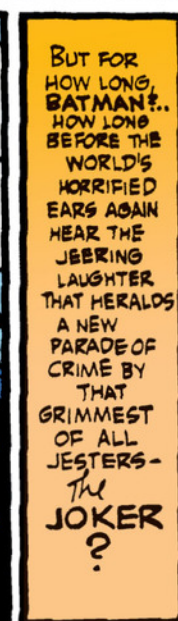
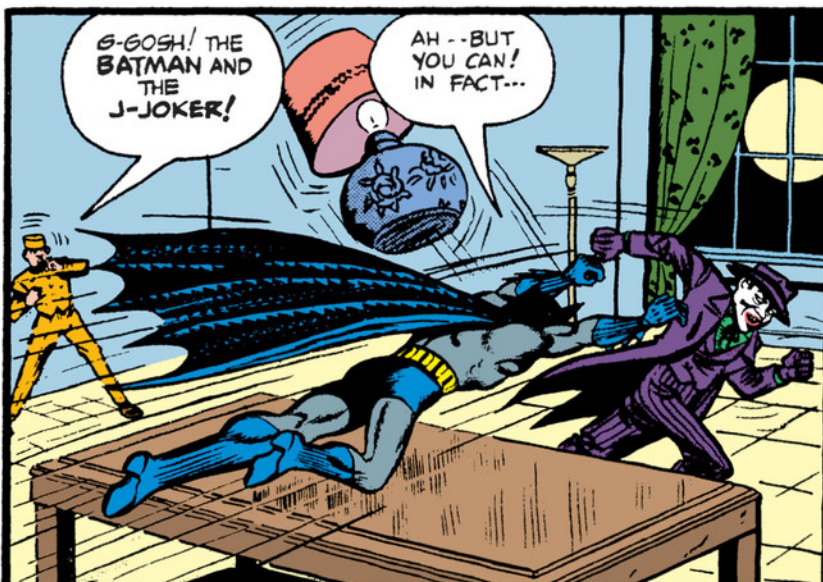
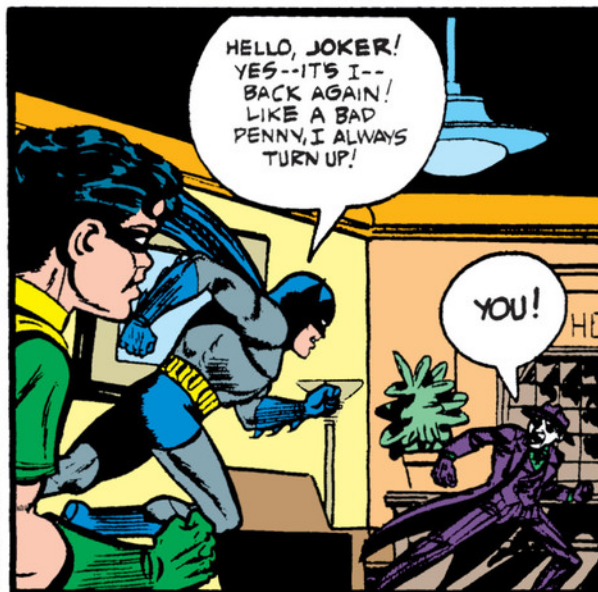
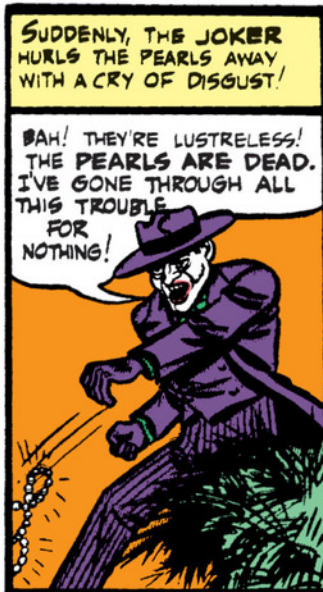


WHAT A MAN-SIZED PROBLEM FOR A BOY-- OR ANY MAN! WHAT WOULD YOU DO IN THE SAME PREDICAMENT?









No. 10

APRIL
MAY

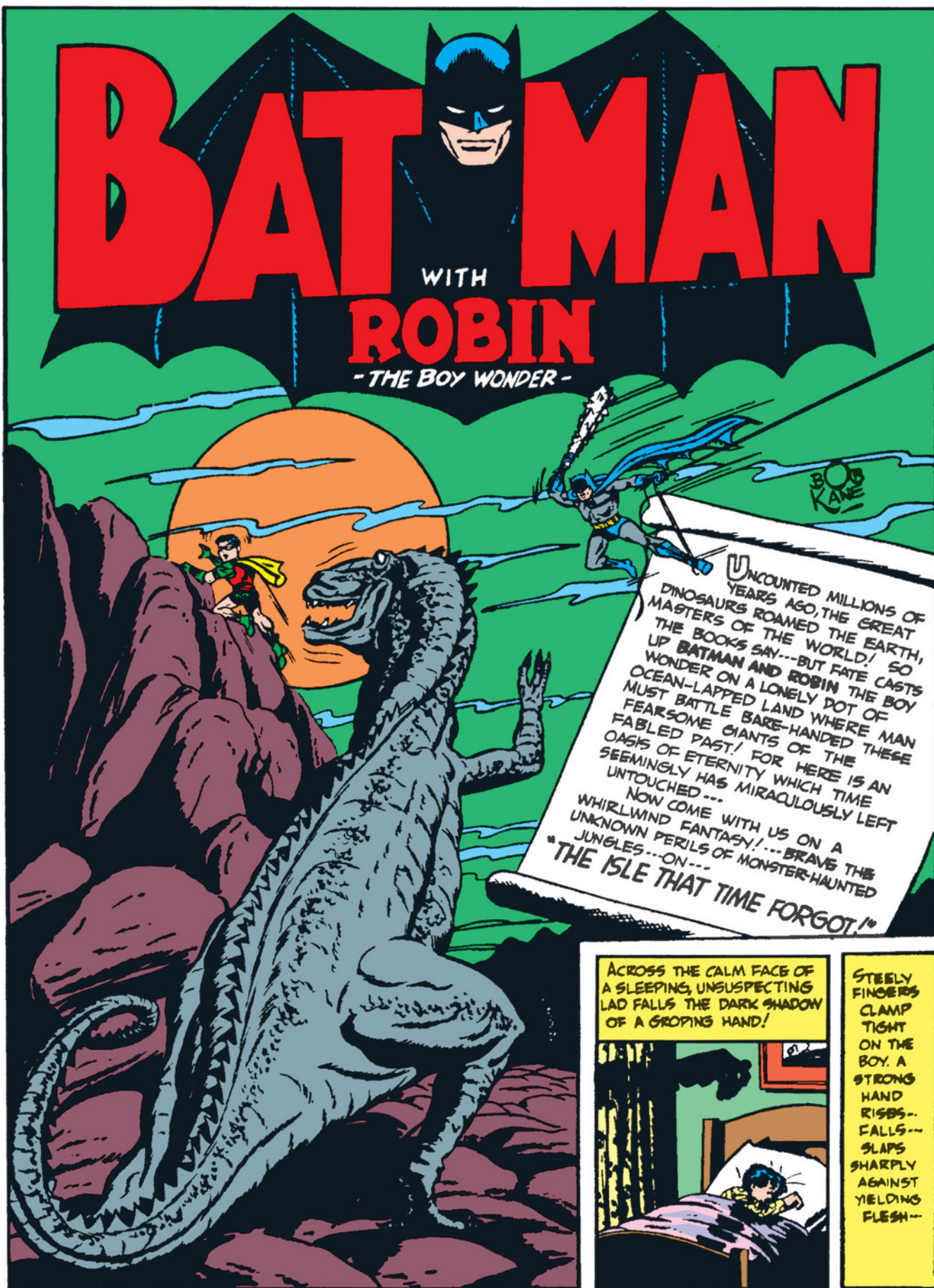


BATMAN



BAT MAN

WITH
ROBIN
- THE BOY WONDER -



UNCOUNTED MILLIONS OF YEARS AGO, THE GREAT MASTERS OF THE WORLD! SO THE BOOKS SAY---BUT FATE CASTS UP BATMAN AND ROBIN THE BOY WONDER ON A LONELY DOT OF OCEAN-LAPPED LAND WHERE MAN MUST BATTLE BARE-HANDED THESE FEARSOME GIANTS OF THE FABLED PAST! FOR HERE IS AN OASIS OF ETERNITY WHICH TIME SEEMINGLY HAS MIRACULOUSLY LEFT UNTOUCHED --- NOW COME WITH US ON A WHIRLWIND FANTASY! --- BRAVE THE UNKNOWN PERILS OF MONSTER-HAUNTED JUNGLES---ON---
"THE ISLE THAT TIME FORGOT!"

ACROSS THE CALM FACE OF A SLEEPING, UNSUSPECTING LAD FALLS THE DARK SHADOW OF A GROPING HAND!

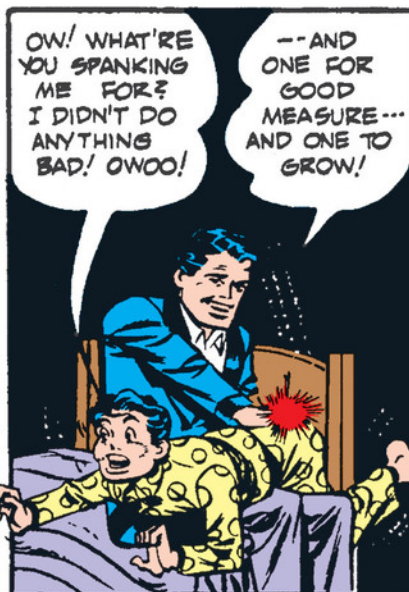


STEELY FINGERS CLAMP TIGHT ON THE BOY. A STRONG HAND RISES--CALLS--SLAPS SHARPLY AGAINST YIELDING FLESH--



OW! HEY,
CUT IT OUT!
OW! WHAT'S
THE IDEA?
OUCH...
OW!

1...2...3...
HAVE YOU
FORGOTTEN,
DICKIE?--4...
5... TCH--
TCH...6...
7...8...



OW! WHAT'RE
YOU SPANKING
ME FOR?
I DIDN'T DO
ANYTHING
BAD! OWOO!

--AND
ONE FOR
GOOD
MEASURE...
AND ONE TO
GROW!



HAPPY
BIRTHDAY,
DICK!

HUH?



HAVE A PIECE
OF YOUR
OWN
BIRTHDAY
CAKE, DICK!

GOLLY...
GOLLY!



HMM! GOOD! YOU
KNOW, BRUCE---I
CERTAINLY WISH THAT
PLANE ON THE
CAKE WAS REAL!

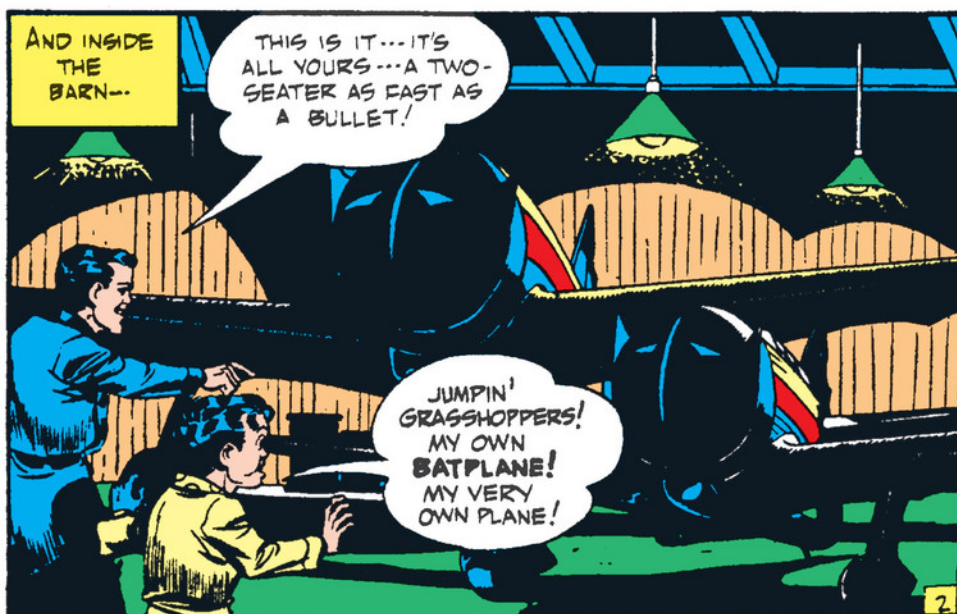
DO YOU, NOW?
WELL, THAT'S
NOT TOO FAR-
FETCHED A
THOUGHT!
COME ON!



A MINUTE LATER, THE TWO
PAD THROUGH A DIM TUNNEL
THAT BURROWS EARTHWARD
FROM THE HOUSE TO AN
OLD DESERTED BARN---

WHAT'S
UP?

WHAT IS
THIS---A
QUIZ PROGRAM?
DON'T BE SO
IMPATIENT!



AND INSIDE
THE
BARN---

THIS IS IT---IT'S
ALL YOURS---A TWO-
SEATER AS FAST AS
A BULLET!

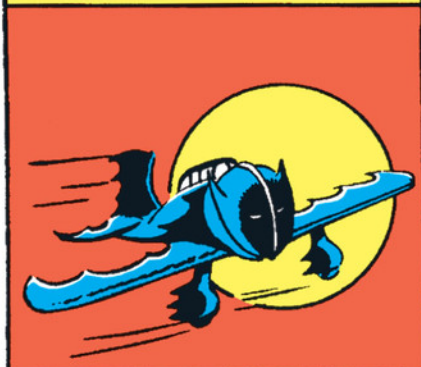
JUMPIN'
GRASSHOPPERS!
MY OWN
BATPLANE!
MY VERY
OWN PLANE!



CAN WE TAKE IT UP FOR
A TRIAL SPIN TONIGHT?
CAN WE, HUH?

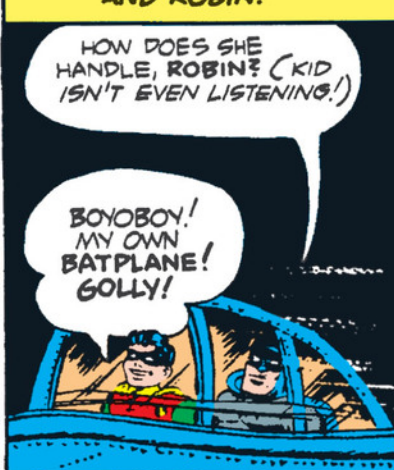
IT'S YOUR
PLANE, DICK!
YOU'RE THE
BOSS!

THAT NIGHT...THE SMALL PLANE LIFTS ITS WINGS, EAGER AS A SMALL BIRD FOR ITS FIRST FLIGHT



AND AT ITS CONTROLS ARE NOT JUST PLAIN BRUCE WAYNE AND DICK GRAYSON--

...FOR COLORFUL GARB HAS TRANSFORMED THEM INTO THAT CRIME-BUSTING TEAM-- BATMAN AND ROBIN!



HOW DOES SHE HANDLE, ROBIN? (KID ISN'T EVEN LISTENING!)

BOYBOY! MY OWN BATPLANE! GOLLY!

IN THE NEXT HOUR, ROBIN SUBJECTS THE PLANE TO A GRUELING TEST: POWER DIVES, TURNS, SPINS---



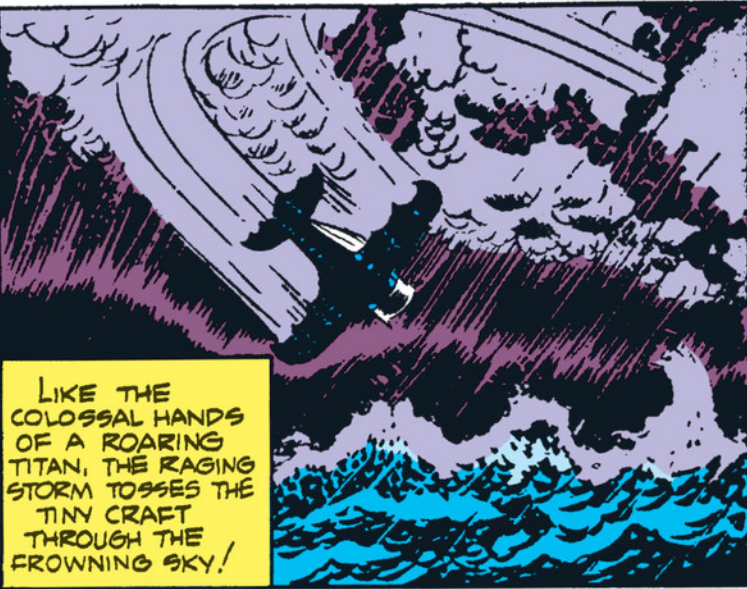
AND THEN...WITHOUT WARNING---

HUH? IT'S SHAKING LIKE A LEAF IN A WIND!

WIND IS RIGHT! AND WHAT A WIND! A HURRICANE HAS JUST BROKEN LOOSE--AND WE'RE RIGHT IN THE MIDDLE OF IT!



LIKE THE COLOSSAL HANDS OF A ROARING TITAN, THE RAGING STORM TOSSES THE TINY CRAFT THROUGH THE FROWNING SKY!



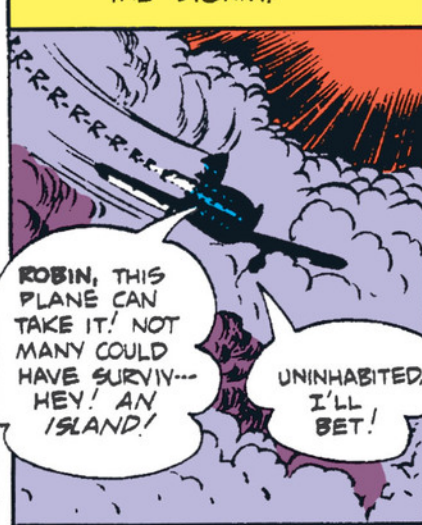
ALL NIGHT THEY BRAVE THE INVISIBLE TERROR OF THE BUFFETING WIND!



WE'RE CAUGHT! NO TELLING WHERE THIS STORM WILL BLOW US!

LUCKY WE FILLED THE RESERVE TANKS BEFORE WE TOOK OFF ON THIS JOYRIDE!

AND AT LAST THE SCARLET SUNRISE COMES--BREAKING THE STORM!

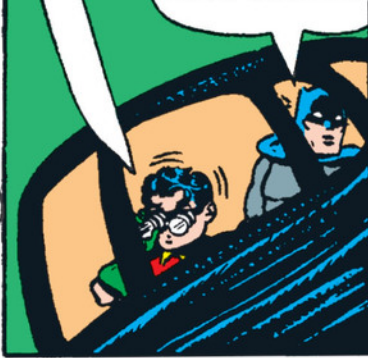


ROBIN, THIS PLANE CAN TAKE IT! NOT MANY COULD HAVE SURVIV-- HEY! AN ISLAND!

UNINHABITED, I'LL BET!

BATMAN, PINCH ME! I--- I THINK I SEE A DINOSAUR-- A DINOSAUR!

DON'T GET GAY! YOU KNOW AS WELL AS I DO DINOSAURS LIVED MILLIONS YEARS AGO! GIVE ME THOSE GLASSES!



AS THE BATMAN'S EYES
SWEEP THE ISLAND,
HE SEES---



I DIDN'T SEE ANY
DINOSAUR, BUT
I CERTAINLY SAW
SOME PEOPLE IN
TROUBLE! LOOKS
LIKE WE'VE FOUND
OURSELVES A CASE!

CIRCLING THE STRANGE ISLAND
WITH MOTOR SILENCED, THE
PLANE SWOOPS TOWARD A CLEAR
FIELD OUT OF SIGHT OF THE
MYSTERIOUS FIGURES ON THE BEACH!

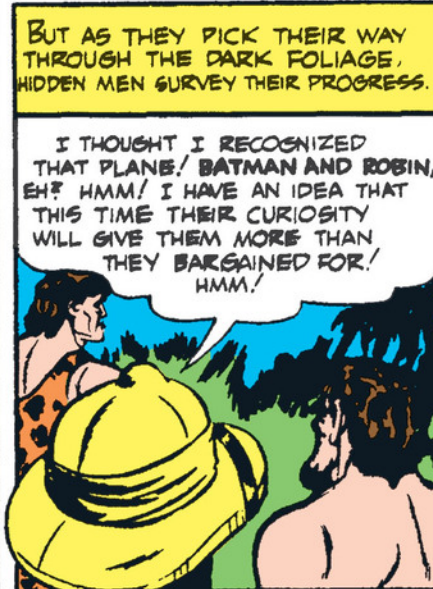
I'M TELLING YOU
I SAW A DINOSAUR!
...OOPS!

A DINOSAUR
IN THE TWENTIETH
CENTURY! SEE
WHAT YOU GET
FOR TELLING
LIES!



BUT AS THEY PICK THEIR WAY
THROUGH THE DARK FOLIAGE,
HIDDEN MEN SURVEY THEIR PROGRESS.

I THOUGHT I RECOGNIZED
THAT PLANE! BATMAN AND ROBIN,
EH? HMM! I HAVE AN IDEA THAT
THIS TIME THEIR CURIOSITY
WILL GIVE THEM MORE THAN
THEY BARGAINED FOR!
HMM!



THIS IS
TOUGH GOING,
HOW MUCH
MORE?

JUST A LITTLE
WAY YET,
I THINK!



THAT
DINOSAUR
WAS RE...
UH!



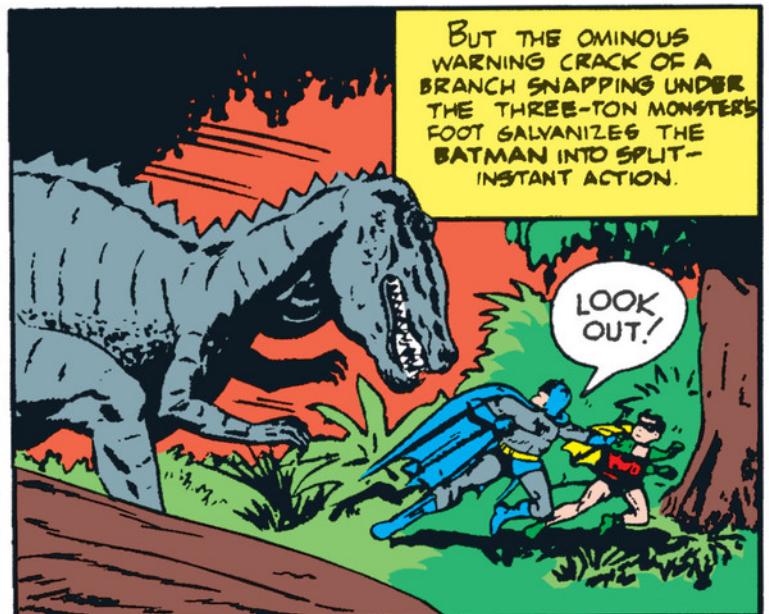
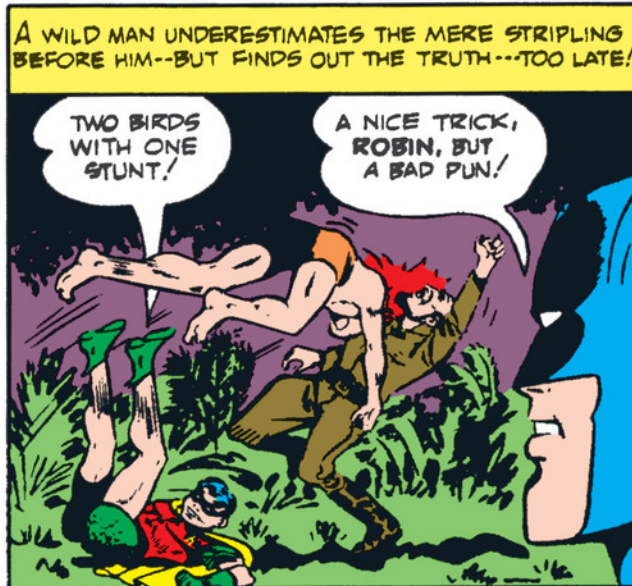
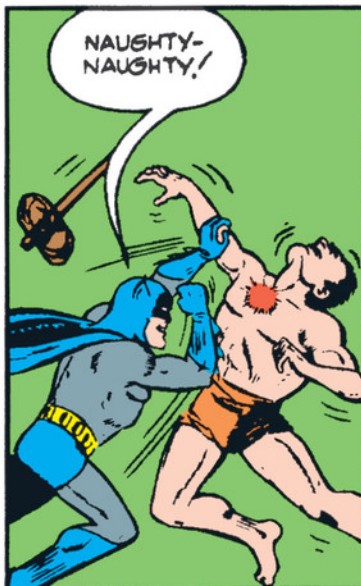
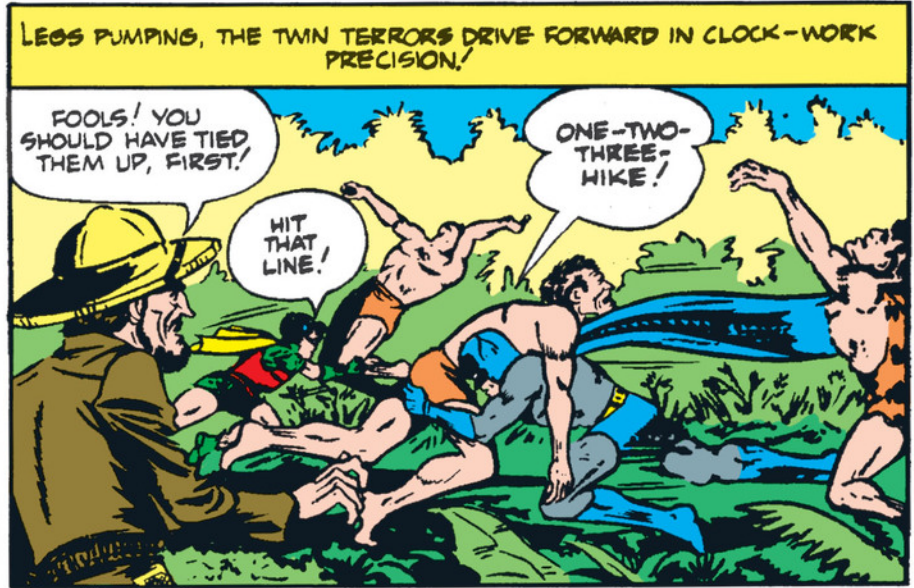
MANY, MANY MINUTES LATER, BATMAN AND ROBIN SHAKE
THE FOG FROM THEIR ACHING HEADS---AND SEE---

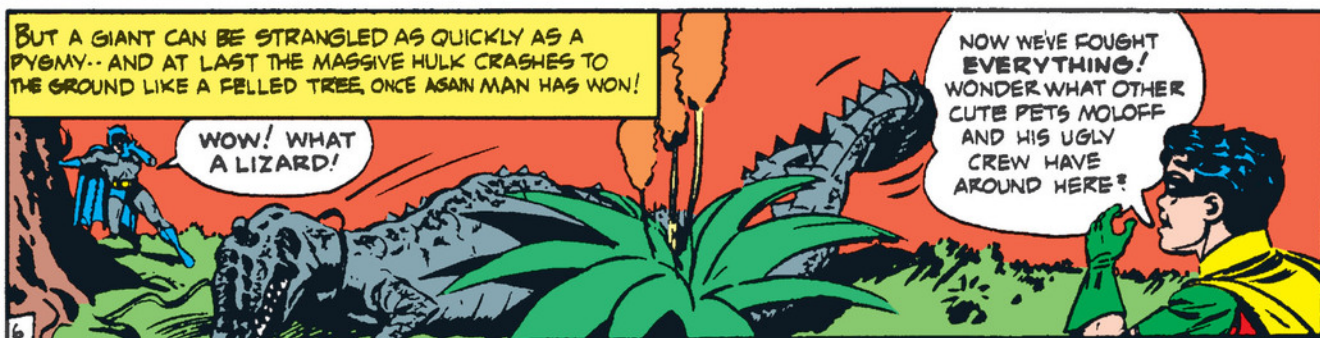
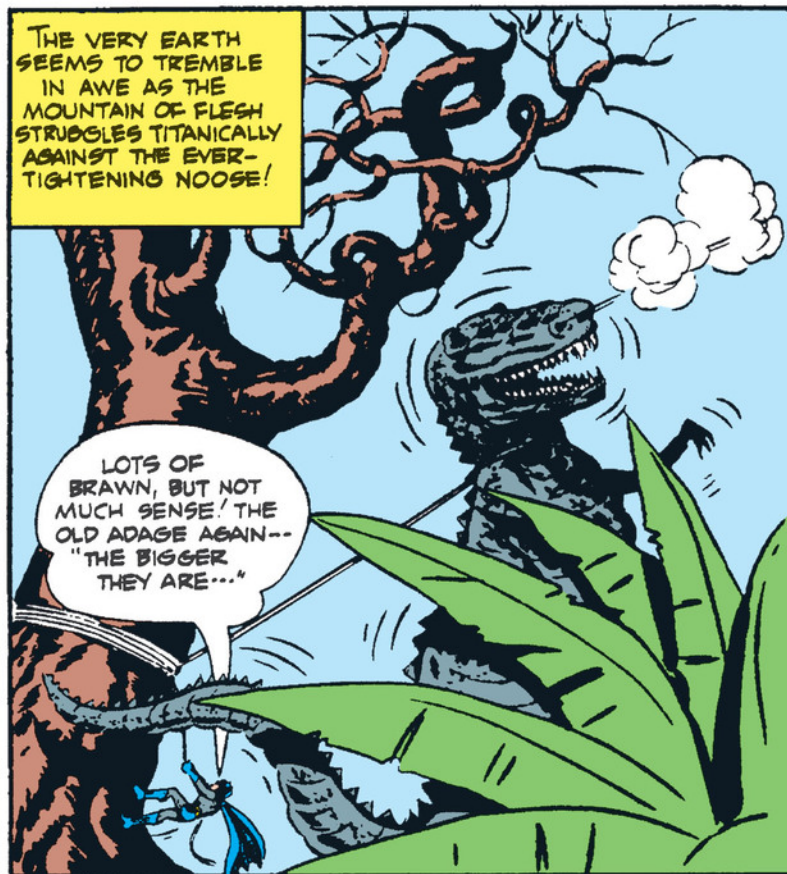
DON'T TRY TO TELL ME YOU
WERE SHIPWRECKED HERE! BAH!
YOU ALL WANT TO KILL ME---
TAKE MY ISLAND AWAY FROM
ME! YOU WANT MY GLORY!
BUT YOU WON'T HAVE IT!

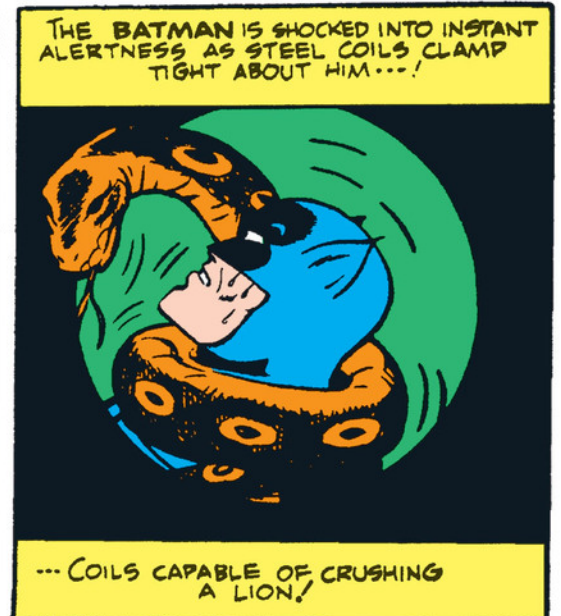
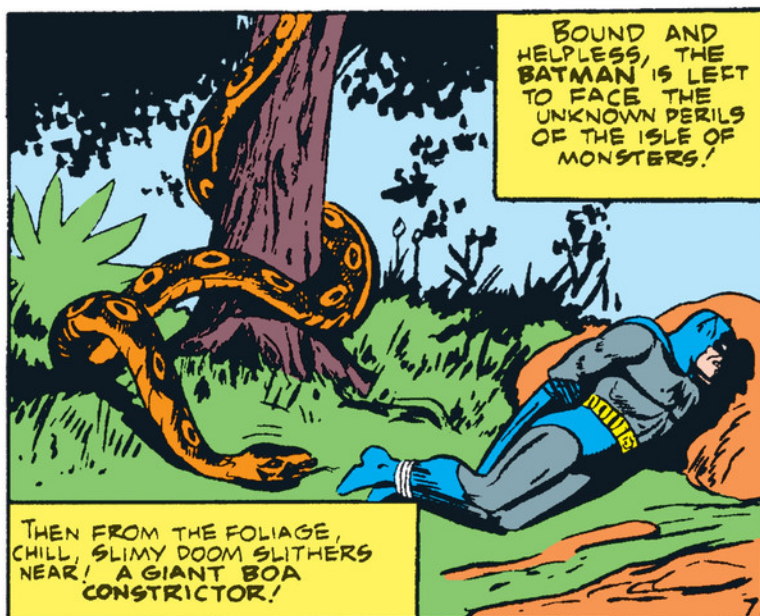
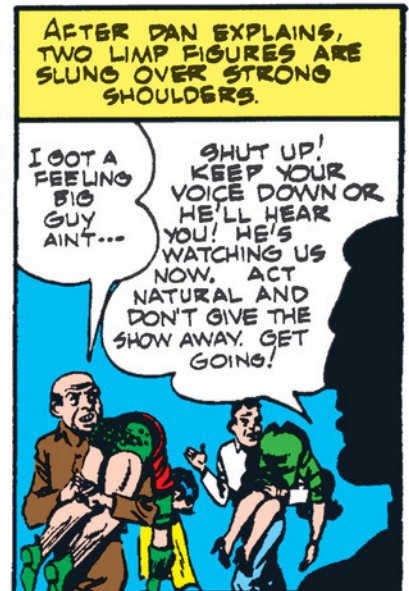
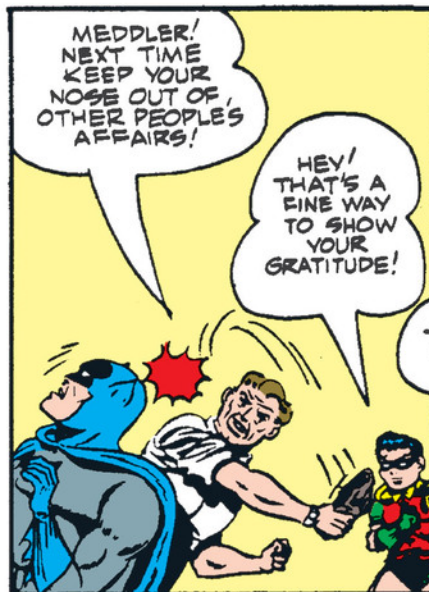
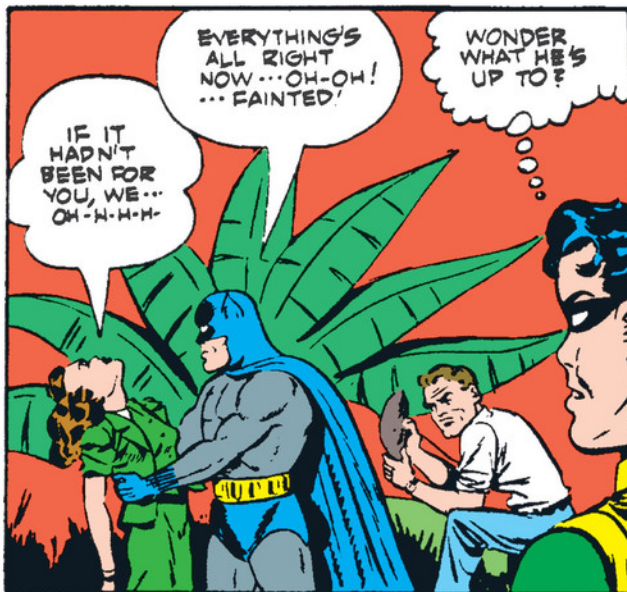


I---PROFESSOR
MOLOFF---
I DISCOVERED
IT! WHEN I
HAVE FINISHED
MY BOOK, I
SHALL RETURN
TO CIVILIZATION
FOR FAME AND
RICHES. I SHALL
HAVE MADE THE
SCIENTIFIC DISCOVERY
OF ALL TIME!
I WILL BE
ACCLAIMED!









LOOP AFTER LOOP OF MUSCLED COILS SQUEEZE THE BATMAN IN DEATH'S COLD CLASP! RIBS CREAK UNDER THE TERRIBLE PRESSURE.

(UGH) ...WONDER HOW ROBIN'S MAKING OUT?... (UGH) ...WHAT A WAY TO DIE! ... I'D LIKE TO SEE THE EXPRESSION ON THE JOKER'S FACE WHEN HE READS MY OBITUARY... (UGH)



JUST WHEN DARKNESS CLOSES IN --- JUST WHEN THE BATMAN'S HEART THREATENS TO BURST... A RIFLE SHOT CRASHES THE SILENCE!



THE BATMAN CUTS HIS BONDS ON A SHARP ROCK ---

HEY! COME OUT! I WANT TO THANK YOU! ... HOW? THAT'S ODD! NO ANSWER! ??



A FOOTPRINT! SOMEBODY WAS HERE --- SAVED MY LIFE --- AND DISAPPEARED! I DON'T GET IT??



WRITHING IN DEATH, THE BOA CONSTRICTOR SLIDES FROM THE PAIN-RACKED BODY IT HAD SOUGHT TO CLAIM A VICTIM!



A SHOT... THANKS... WHOEVER YOU ARE... THANKS!

CERTAINLY MOLOFF OR THAT OTHER FELLOW WOULDN'T RESCUE ME! SOMEBODY IS PLAYING MY GUARDIAN ANGEL --- BUT WHO? THIS, MR. BATMAN, IS A WEE BIT MYSTERIOUS!



MEANWHILE, BEFORE A GREAT CAGE OF WITHERS BUILT AGAINST THE MOUTH OF A VAST CAVERN IN THE GLOOMY ISLAND DEPTHS ---

THIS THING CAN HOLD ANIMALS, SO IT OUGHTTA HOLD THIS KID!

DAN --- HE MIGHT BE TORN TO PIECES! DON'T YOU THINK YOU'RE CARRYING THIS A BIT, TOO FAR!

DON'T BE SILLY, DOLORES. THIS IS ALL PART OF THE GAME! DO YOU REALLY THINK I'M A MURDERER?



YOU --- YOU'RE SURE HE'LL BE ALL RIGHT!

OF COURSE! HONEY, DO YOU REALIZE THIS ISLAND MEANS A FORTUNE FOR US! BURIED TREASURE --- THAT'S WHAT YOU COULD CALL IT --- YES, BURIED TREASURE --- NOW...



AFTER THEY
DEPART---



SOMETHING QUEER
IS GOING ON HERE
THAT NEEDS
EXPLAINING---I
WONDER WHAT
HAPPENS NEXT...

AS IF IN ANSWER, A TUSKED,
SHAGGY BEAST PADS SILENTLY
TOWARD THE UNSUSPECTING LAD!

FEEL LIKE STRETCHING
MY---UH! A
SABER-TOOTHED
TIGER!

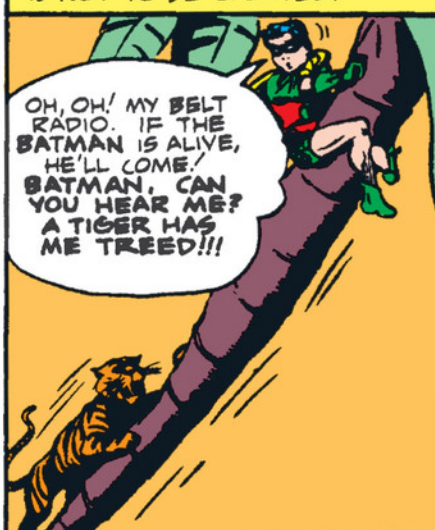


SUPERBLY-TRAINED MUSCLES RESPOND
WITH LIGHTNING SPEED TO THE
STIMULUS OF DANGER!



SABER-TOOTHED
TIGERS WENT OUT
OF STYLE IN THE
STONE AGE---BUT
AFTER THAT
DINOSAUR I'LL
BELIEVE ANYTHING
NOW!

BUT THE ANGRY SABER-TOOTH
IS NOT TO BE CHEATED!



OH, OH! MY BELT
RADIO. IF THE
BATMAN IS ALIVE,
HE'LL COME!
BATMAN, CAN
YOU HEAR ME?
A TIGER HAS
ME TREED!!!

AND IN THE FOREST
NOT TOO FAR AWAY...



SNAKE? NO---I
DIDN'T! BIG GUY...
...AH--- BUT THE
SECRET OF
YOUR PROTECTION
LIES WITH
ME.

MOLOFF!
YOU...
YOU KILLED
THE
SNAKE!



...A TIGER
HAS ME
TREED!

NO, BATMAN--
I DID NOT SAVE
YOUR LIFE---
I HAVE COME
BACK TO
TAKE IT! IT
IS AS SIMPLE
AS ALL THAT!

MY RADIO---
ROBIN
IN TROUBLE!



OUT OF MY WAY!
ROBIN NEEDS ME!
OUT OF MY WAY!
COMING,
ROBIN...

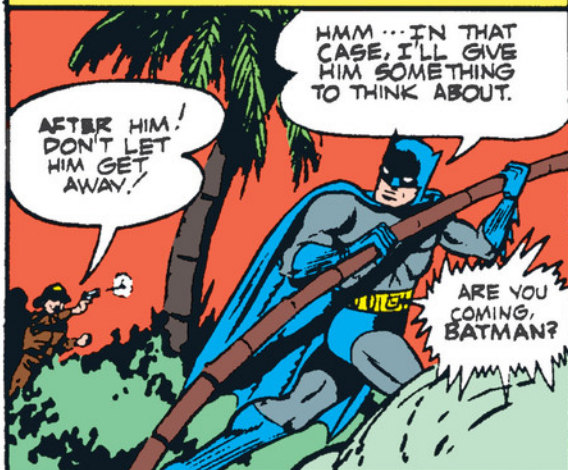
HEARTENED BY THE
BATMAN'S CRY, ROBIN
STRIKES BACK AT THE
SNARLING MAN-KILLER!



COMING,
ROBIN!

I'M WARNING
YOU. YOU'D
BETTER SCRAM
BEFORE THE
BATMAN GETS
HERE!

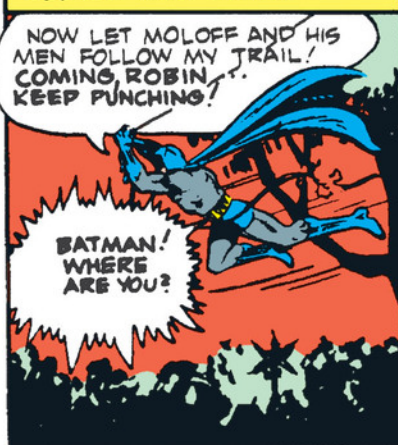
LIKE A BLOODHOUND ON THE SCENT, THE BATMAN FOLLOWS THE BLIND TRAIL OF THE URGING VOICE EMANATING FROM HIS WIRELESS.



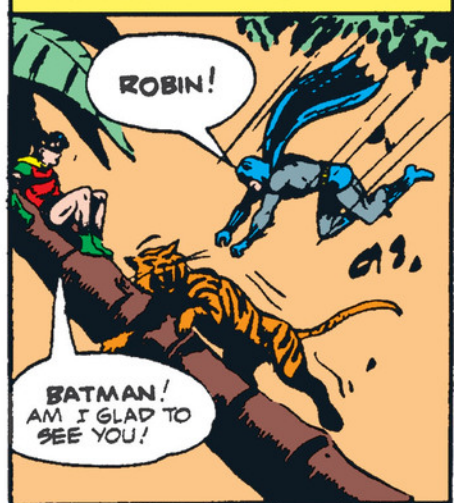
LURCHING THROUGH BRAMBLE, STUMBLING OVER SNAGGING BRUSH AND ROOTS, SICK WITH APPREHENSION, THE BATMAN FOLLOWS THE INVISIBLE RADIO BEAM!



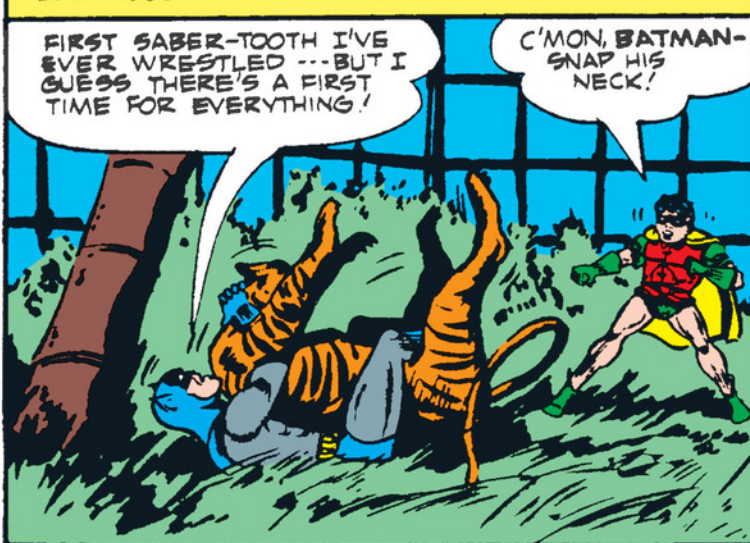
AN INSTANT LATER, A HUMAN ANTHROPOID DARTS THROUGH THE TREETOPS, MUSCLES RIPPLING IN RHYTHM/... SWING AND CLUTCH... CLUTCH AND SWING...



SUDDENLY A FORMIDABLE FIGURE CRASHES THROUGH THE RUSTIC CAGE!

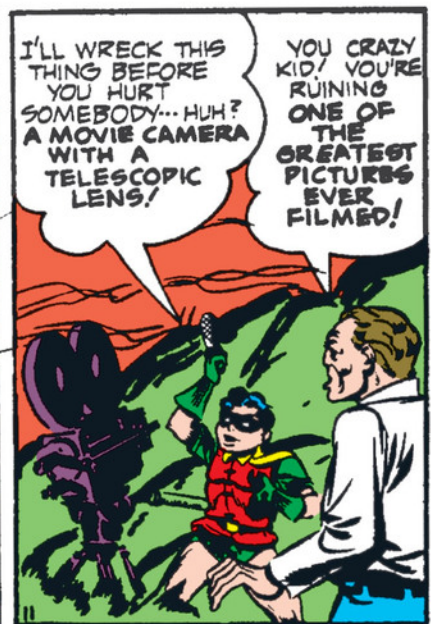
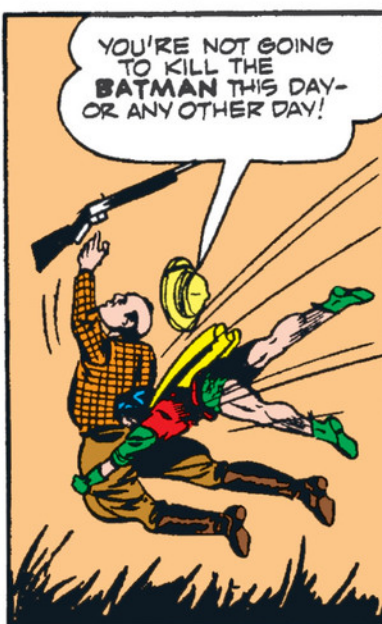
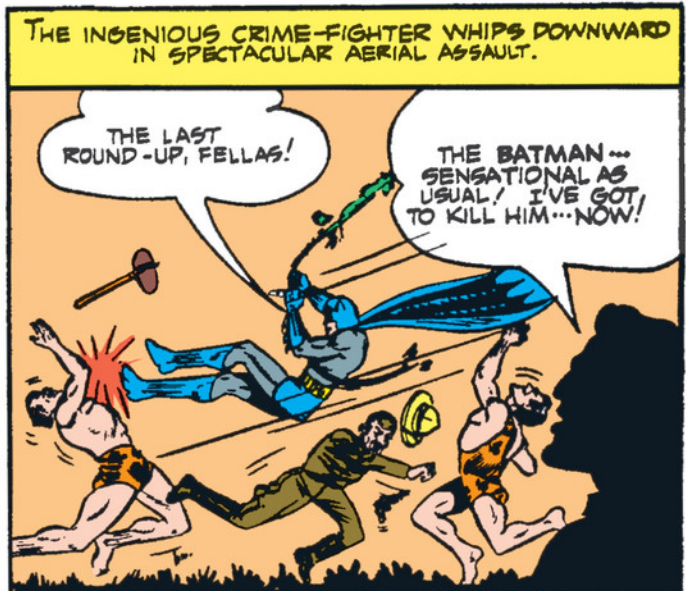
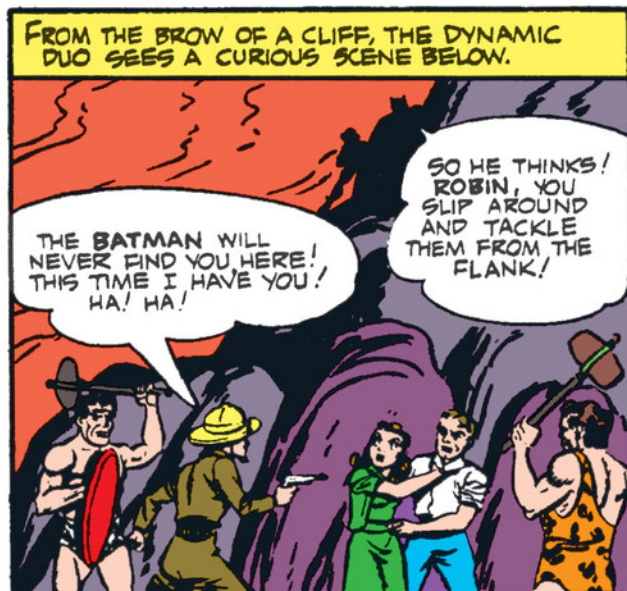
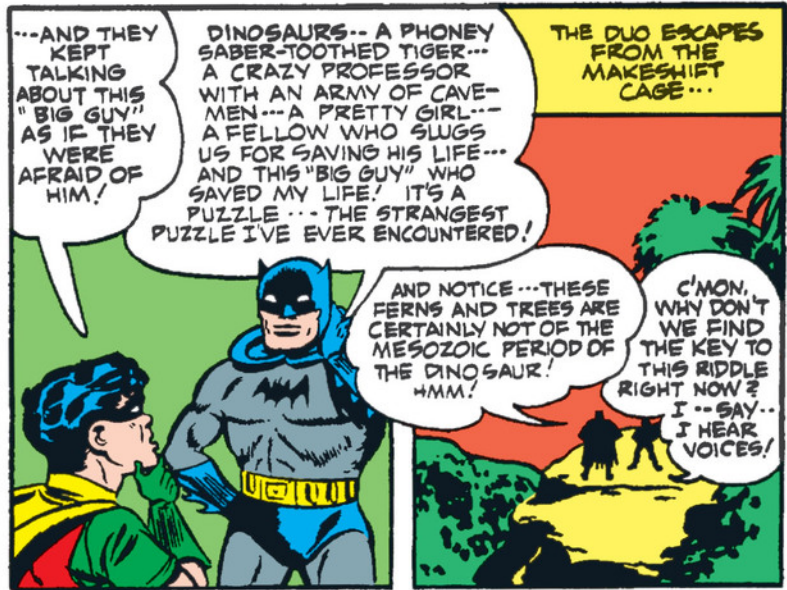


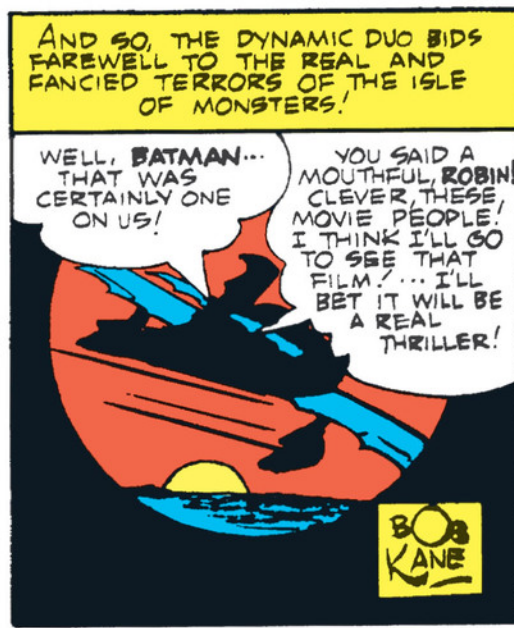
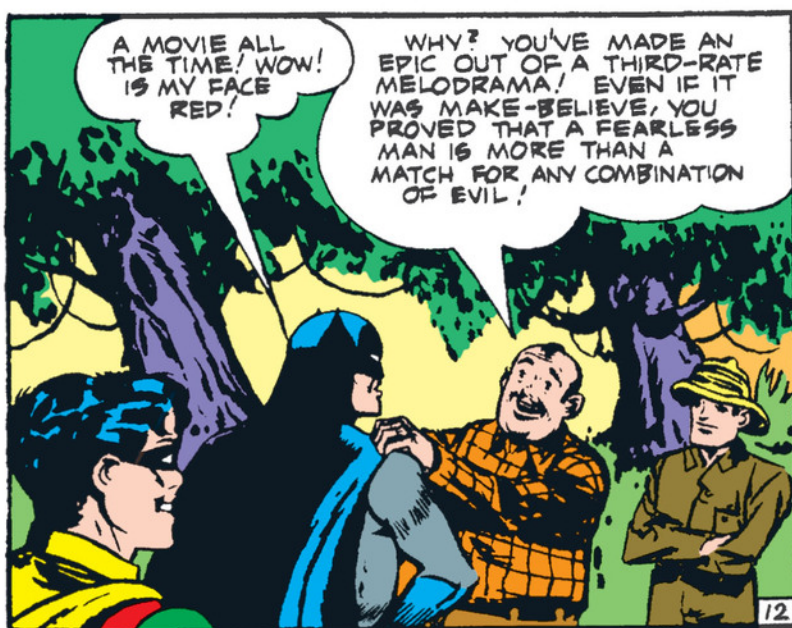
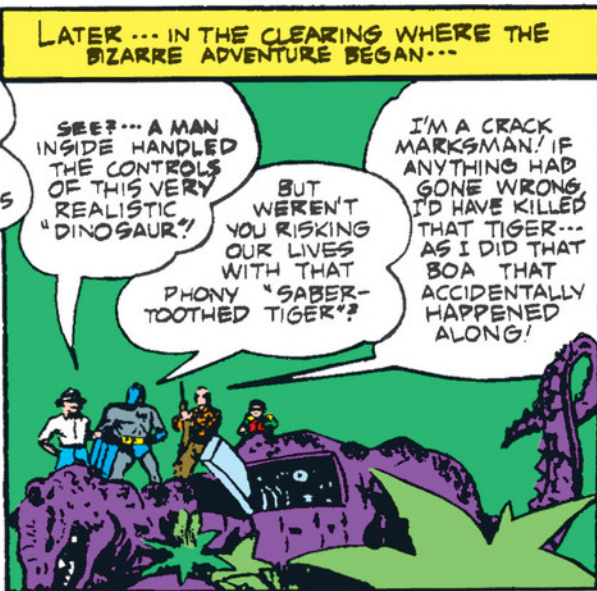
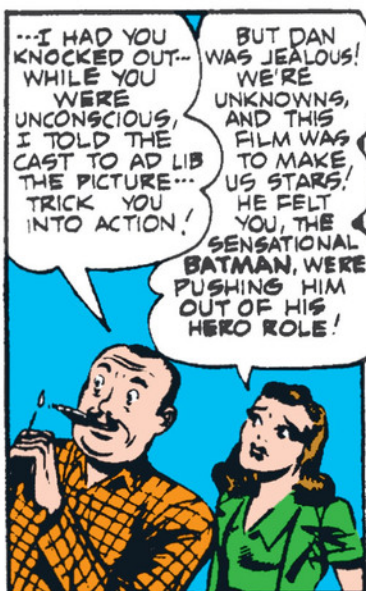
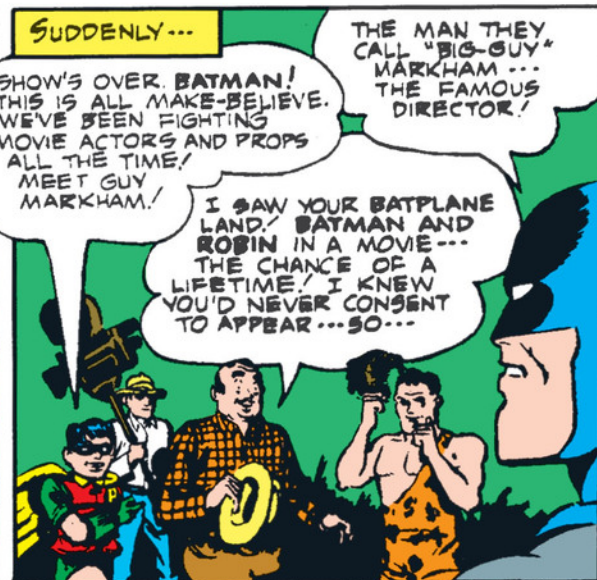
MAN AND BEAST FALL HEAVILY. STEELY LEGS LOCK ABOUT THE WRITHING TIGER.



STRONG HANDS CLAMP AROUND POINTED TUSKS AND ...

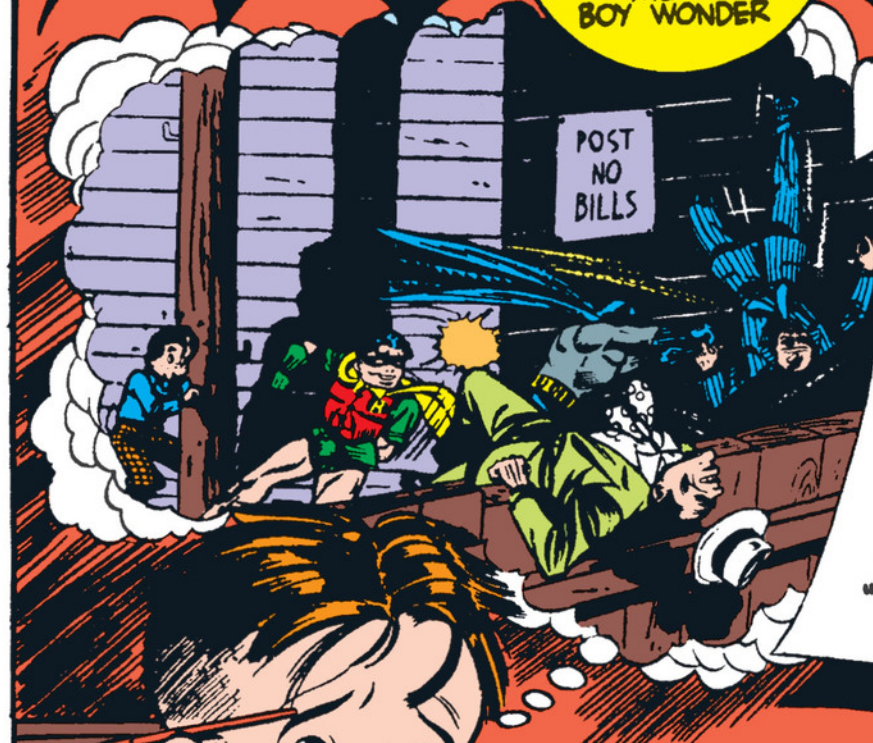






BATMAN

WITH
ROBIN
THE
BOY WONDER



LITTLE TOMMY DIDN'T LIKE TO GO TO SCHOOL. HE PLAYED HOOKY. HE DIDN'T STUDY. HE GOT BAD REPORT CARDS. TOMMY WAS A BA-AD BOY! SO, WHEN REPORT CARD DAY CAME, TOMMY TOOK IT ON THE LAM. HE BEAT IT TO THE BIG TOWN ... AND RAN SMACK INTO TROUBLE ... RIGHT UP TO HIS NECKTIE! BUT WHEN TOMMY TOOK THE HIGH ROAD, HE MET THOSE ROVING CRIME-BUSTERS, BATMAN AND ROBIN, WHO SOON SHOWED HIM THE ERROR OF HIS WAYS ... IN THIS STORY OF ...
"REPORT CARD BLUES!"



YES, THE DAY STARTS OFF VERY BADLY INDEED

AND BE SURE YOU GO STRAIGHT TO SCHOOL---AND NOT PLAY HOOKY AS YOU DID YESTERDAY. YOUR FATHER WILL SPEAK TO YOU ABOUT THAT, TONIGHT!

GOLLY! HOW DID MOM FIND OUT ABOUT THAT?



AS A MATTER OF FACT, TOMMY'S DAY CONTINUES IN TERRIBLE FASHION!

PUPILS, TOMORROW YOU WILL RECEIVE YOUR REPORT CARDS!

REPORT CARDS! O-O-O-H! I DON'T FEEL SO GOOD!



HIS FATHER'S ANNOUNCEMENT DOESN'T HELP MATTERS!

TOMMY, I'VE DECIDED NOT TO THRASH YOU IF YOU BRING HOME A BAD REPORT CARD AGAIN! INSTEAD, I WILL FORBID YOU TO PLAY AFTER SCHOOL!

GEE!

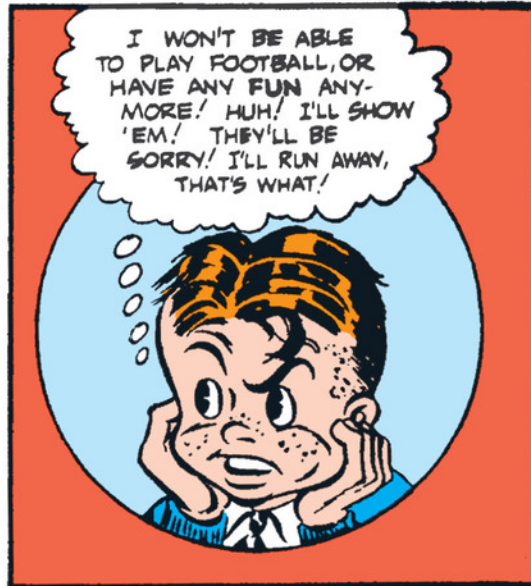


LATER--- IN HIS ROOM, TOMMY PONDER'S OVER A BIG PROBLEM.

GEE WHIZ! I JUST KNOW I'M GONNA GET A BAD REPORT CARD, AND POP SAYS I WON'T BE ABLE TO PLAY WITH THE FELLAS AFTER SCHOOL IF I DO!



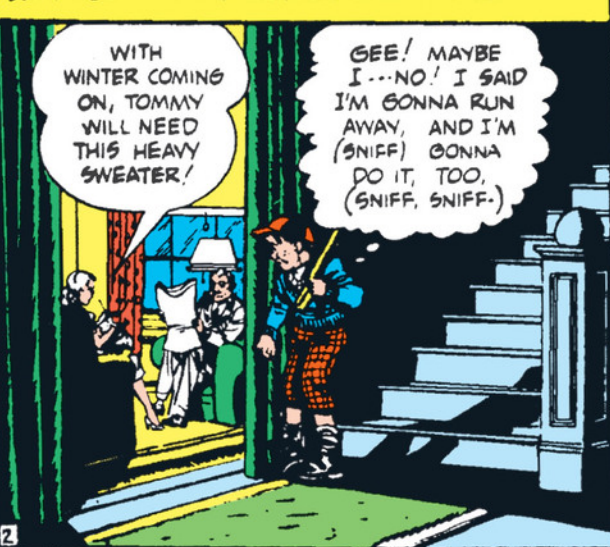
I WON'T BE ABLE TO PLAY FOOTBALL, OR HAVE ANY FUN ANYMORE! HUH! I'LL SHOW 'EM! THEY'LL BE SORRY! I'LL RUN AWAY, THAT'S WHAT!



SOME TIME LATER, A SMALL FIGURE LOOKS LONGINGLY AT HIS MOTHER AND FATHER----

WITH WINTER COMING ON, TOMMY WILL NEED THIS HEAVY SWEATER!

GEE! MAYBE I---NO! I SAID I'M GONNA RUN AWAY, AND I'M (SNIFF) GONNA DO IT, TOO, (SNIFF, SNIFF.)



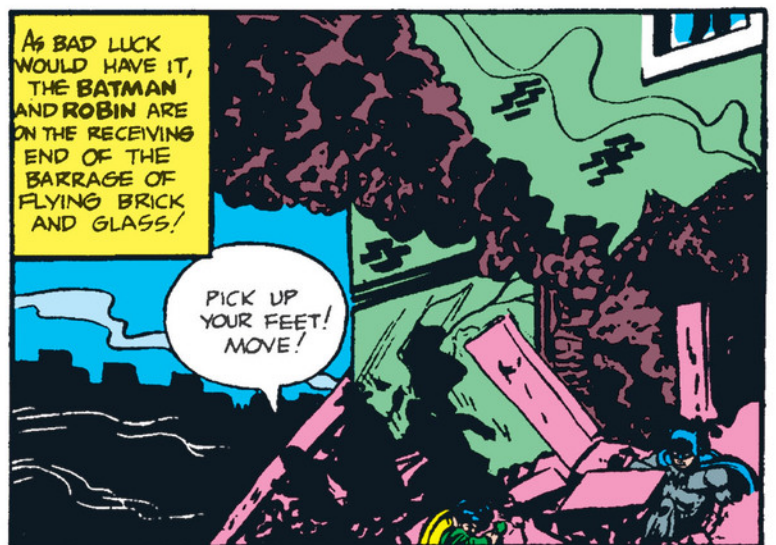
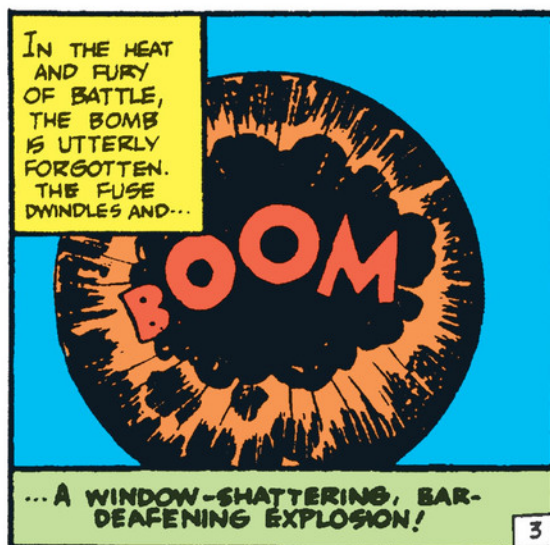
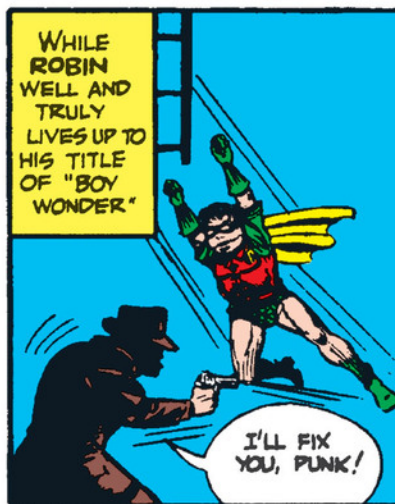
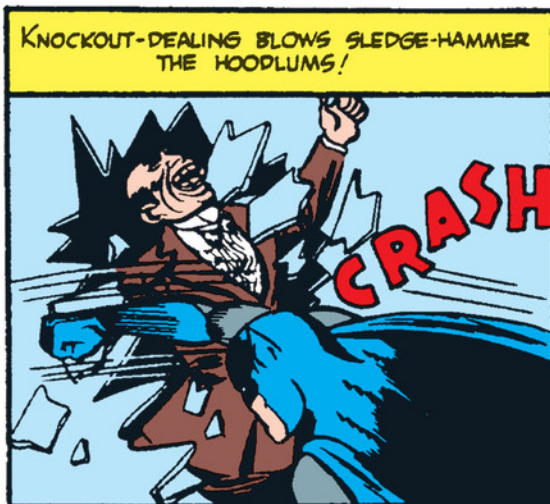
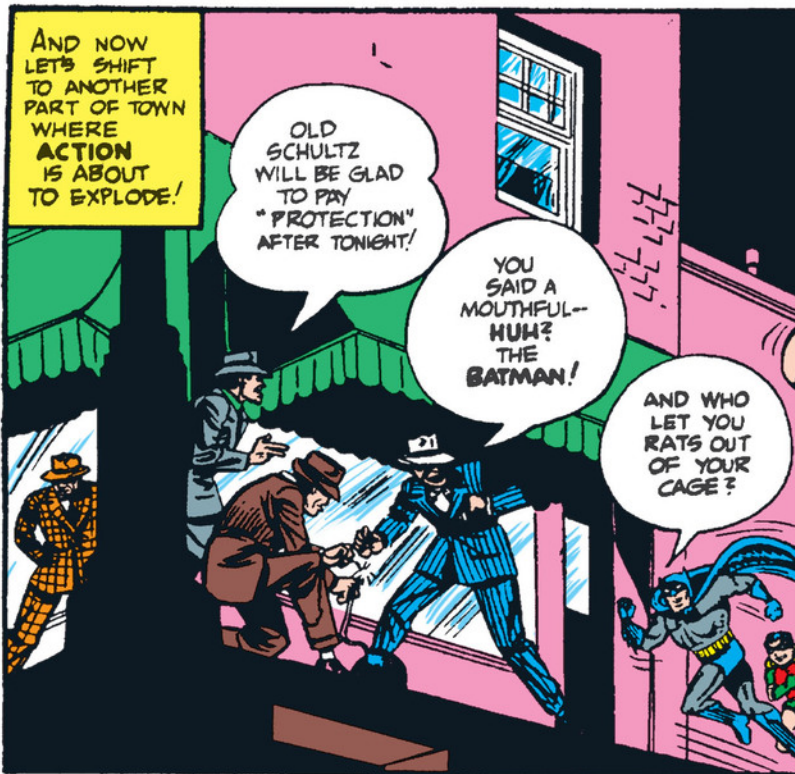
HIS HEART THUMPING LOUDLY, TOMMY STEPS OUT INTO NIGHT--BLACK, OMINOUS---AND TERRIFYING---

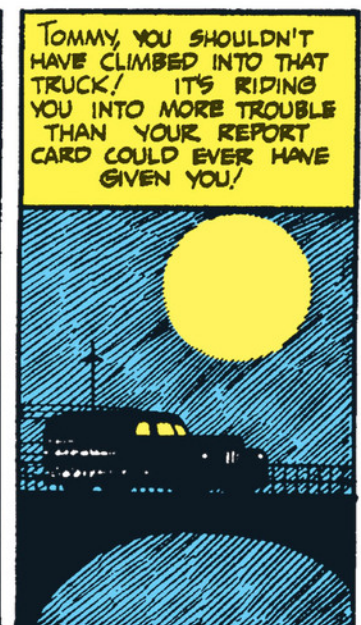
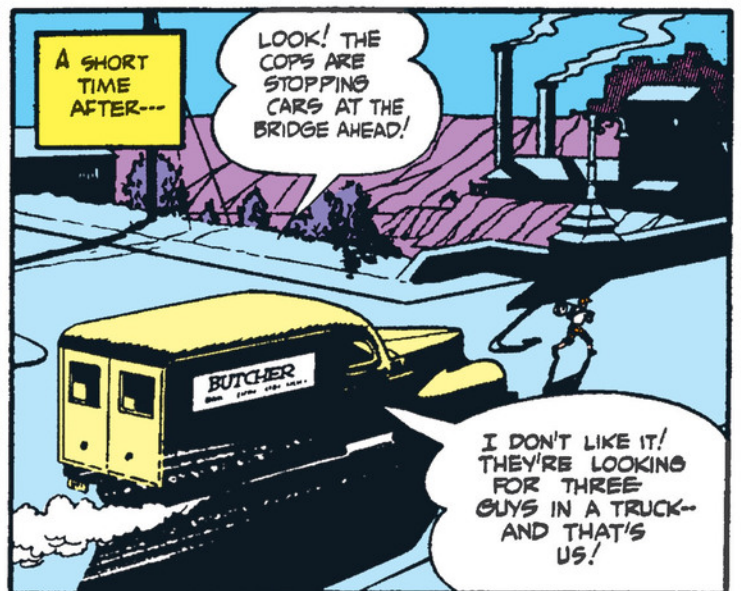
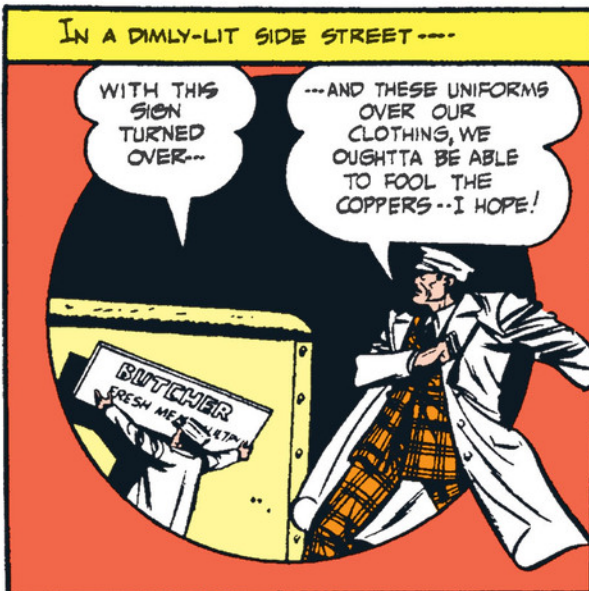
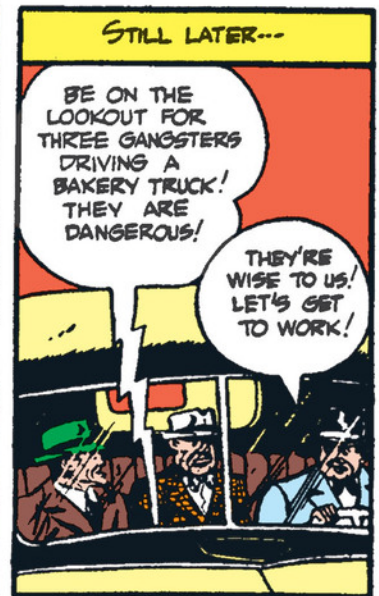
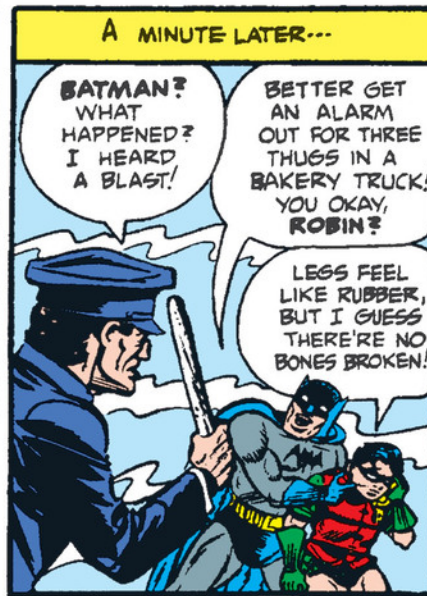


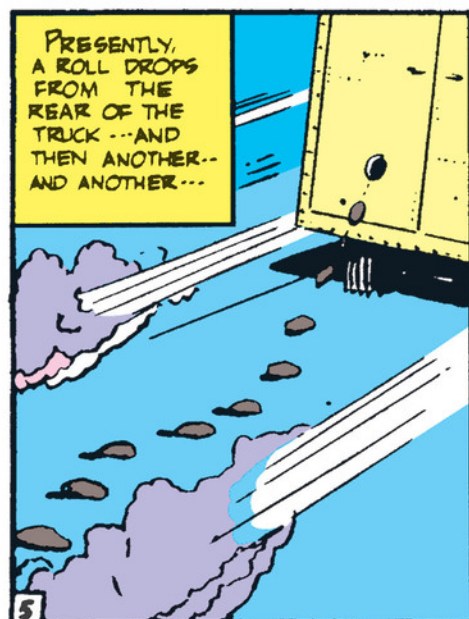
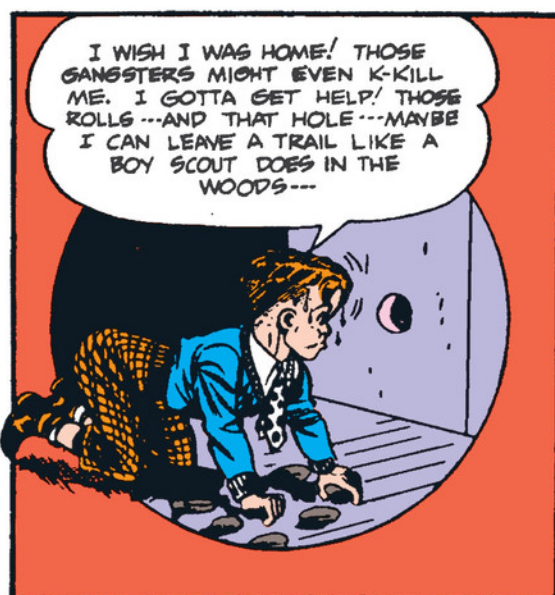
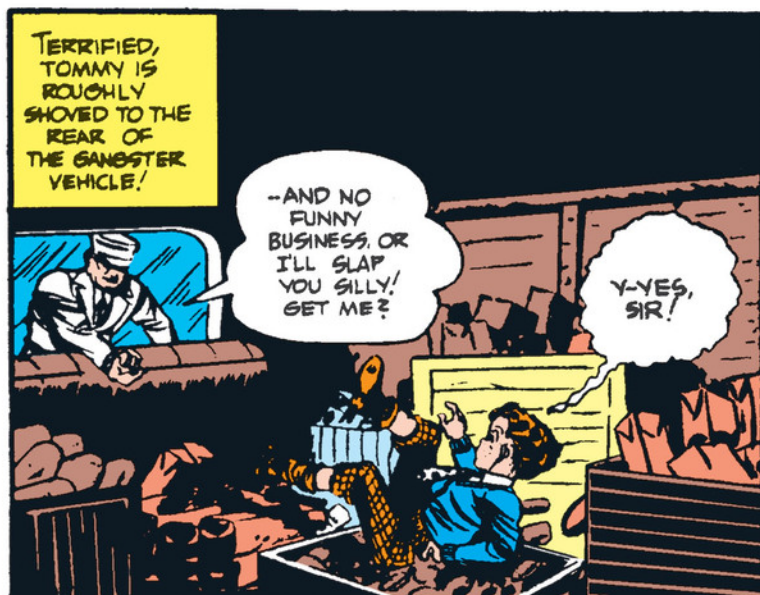
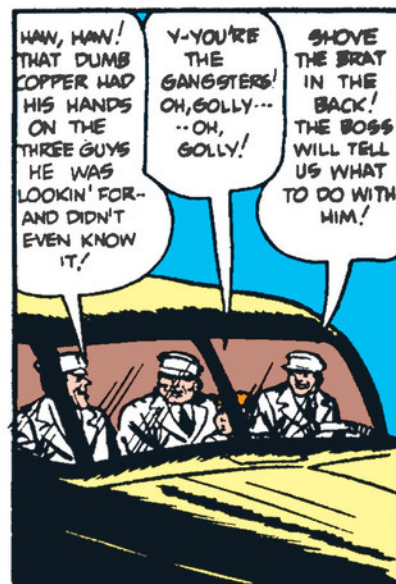
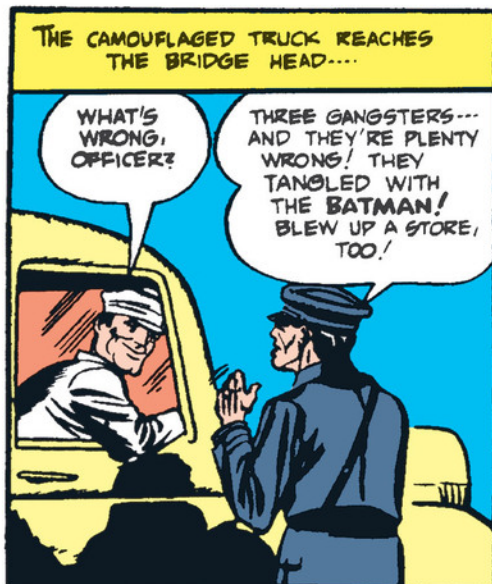
FULL OF MISGIVINGS, BUT MANFULLY DETERMINED, TOMMY SETS FEET ON THE ROAD TO ADVENTURE--

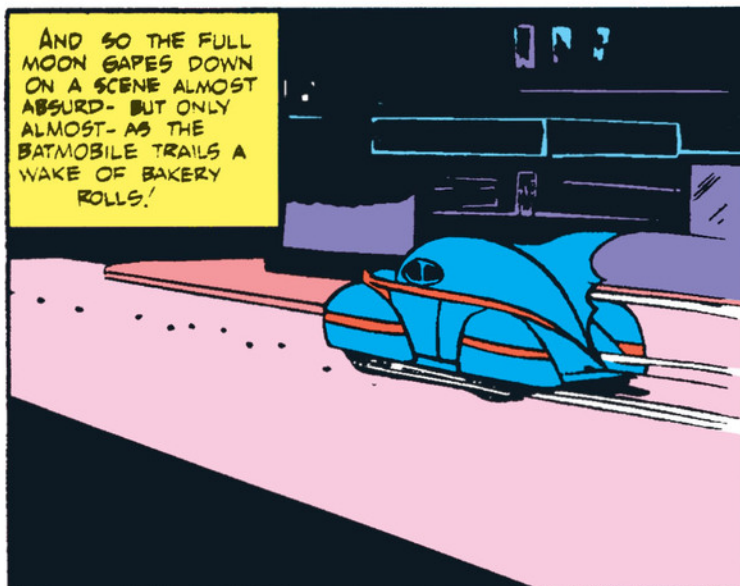
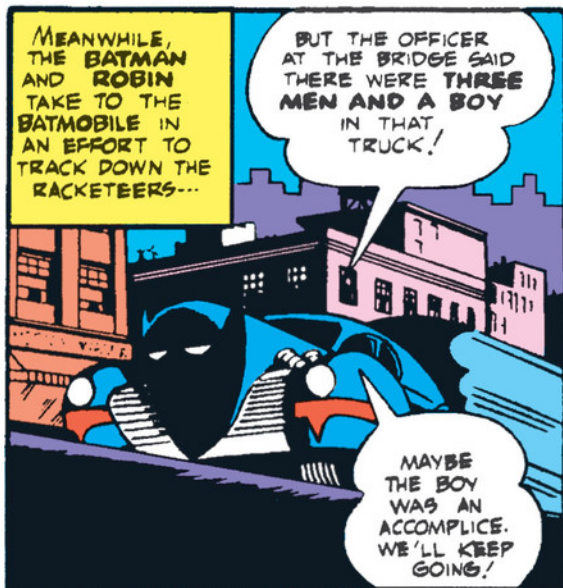


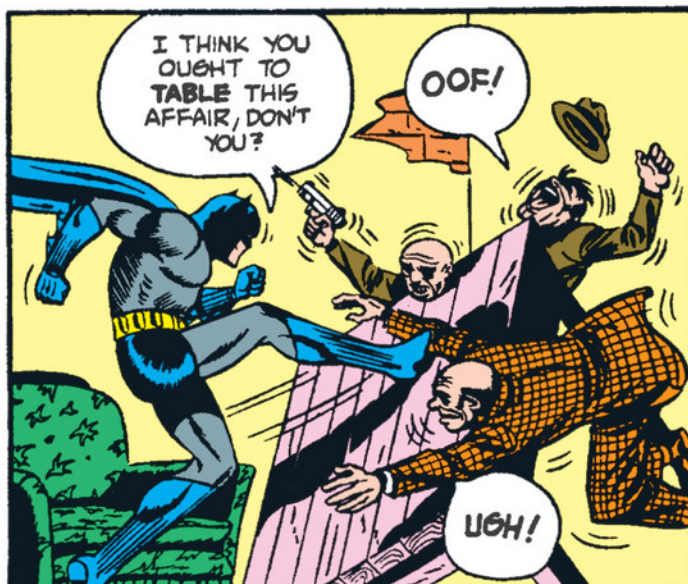
LITTLE TOMMY TRENT, YOU'LL REMEMBER THIS NIGHT ALL YOUR LIFE!







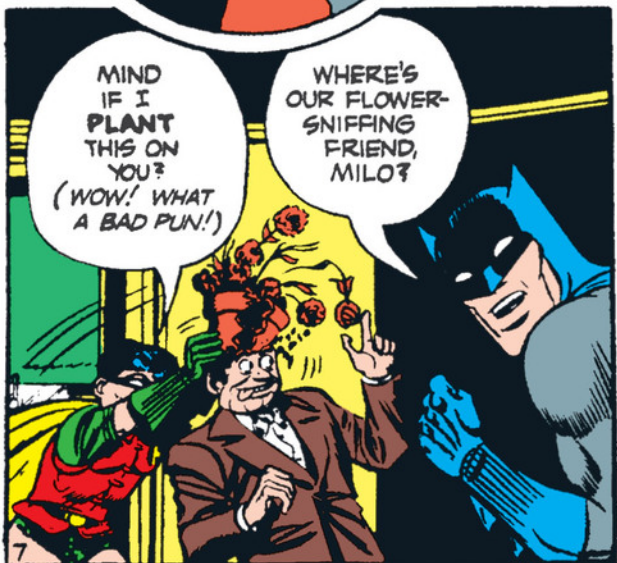




KEEN-EDGED DANGER SWOOPS DOWN TOWARD ROBIN'S UNDEFENDED BACK---

BUT ROBIN'S NIMBLE BRAIN AND LITHE BODY ACT IN PERFECT RHYTHM!

MY, AREN'T YOU THE LITTLE CUT-UP!



HELPLESS NOW, THE BATMAN AND ROBIN SURRENDER --- AND MINUTES LATER ---

GOSH, MR. BATMAN, I'M SORRY YOU HAD TO GET CAPTURED ON ACCOUNT OF ME!

FORGET IT, SON, BUT WOULD YOU MIND TELLING ME HOW YOU GOT MIXED UP IN ALL THIS?



THE BATMAN LISTENS TO A BOY'S TALE OF WOE.

AND I'LL NEVER RUN AWAY AGAIN! 'COURSE I'M NOT SCARED NOW, 'CAUSE YOU'LL GET US OUT OF THIS. WON'T YOU, MR. BATMAN?

OF COURSE, SON --- (THIS KID CERTAINLY BELIEVES IN ME. CAN'T LET HIM KNOW WE'RE IN A SPOT! MUST DO SOMETHING.)



MEANWHILE MILO HAS CALLED TOGETHER HIS PACK OF JACKALS---

WHAT'S THE IDEA O' CALLIN' US IN, BOSS?

YOU KNOW THIS IS THE FIRST OF THE MONTH --- WE SETTLE ACCOUNTS WITH THOSE WHO REFUSE TO ACCEPT OUR-- "PROTECTION!"



SURE-- THIS IS PAYOFF NIGHT!

RIGHT! BUT THE POLICE ARE ON THE PROWL FOR US! SO WE MUST WORK FASTER. SPLIT INTO THREE GROUPS AND TAKE THREE CARS TO THESE ADDRESSES!



THE BATMAN AND ROBIN... THEY GET THE WORKS LATER, EH?

YES! THE BOY COMES WITH ME TO SERVE AS A SHIELD IN CASE THE POLICE SHOULD DECIDE TO FIRE THEIR GUNS!

LISTEN, MILO-- IF YOU HURT THAT BOY YOU'LL BE THE SORRIEST MAN ALIVE!



AFTER THE TRIO OF "TORPEDO" CARS ROAR AWAY---

RELAX, CHUM--- YOU'RE NOT GOIN' ANYWHERE 'CEPT MAYBE IN THE RIVER. HAW!

THAT INNOCENT BOY---HE'S LIABLE TO BE HURT BY GUNFIRE---

GOT TO DO SOMETHING --BUT WHAT?



THEN A WILD PLAN --- THE BRAIN-CHILD OF DESPERATION ITSELF!--- IS PUT INTO ACTION---

I HOPE THIS APE IS AS DUMB AS HE LOOKS.

COPPERS? I BETTER SEE---

ROBIN, I HEARD A NOISE AT THE DOOR!

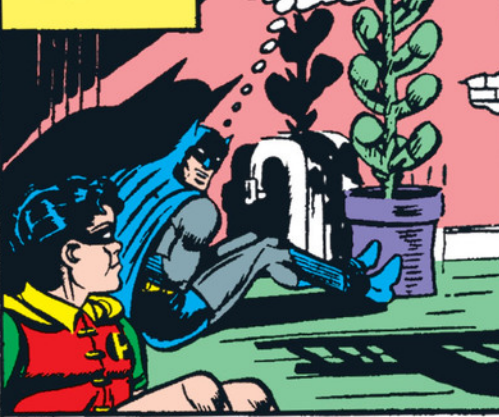
BATMAN'S UP TO SOMETHING--BETTER PLAY ALONG!

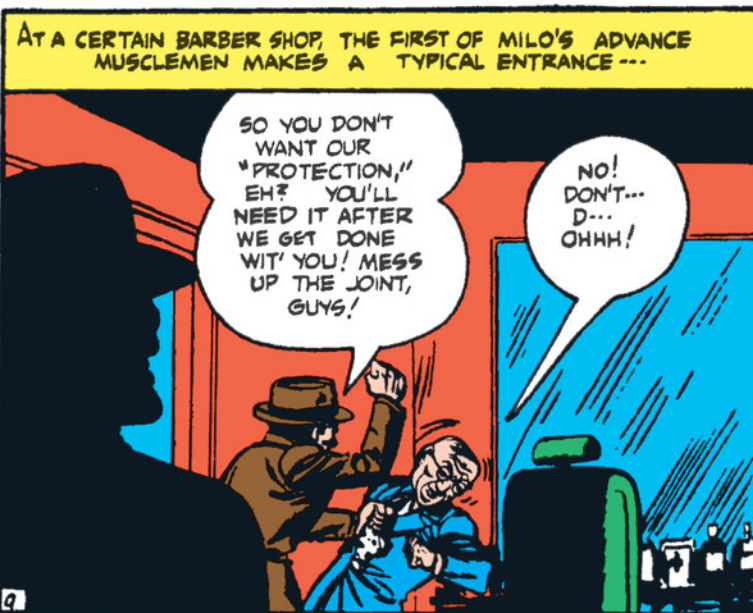
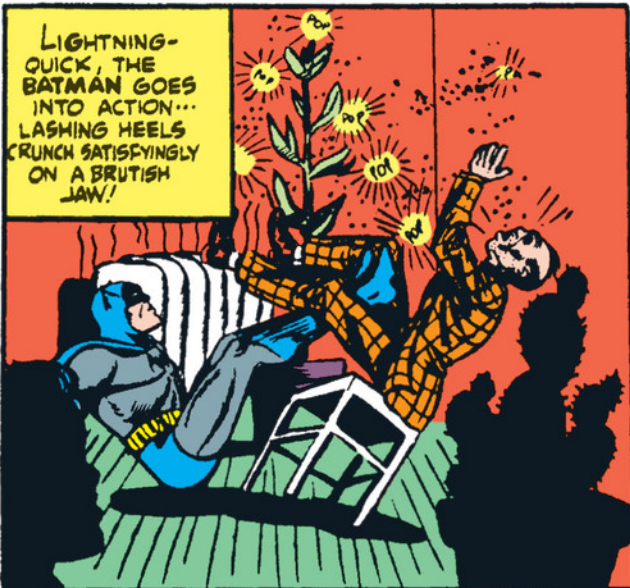
I'LL BET IT'S THE POLICE!



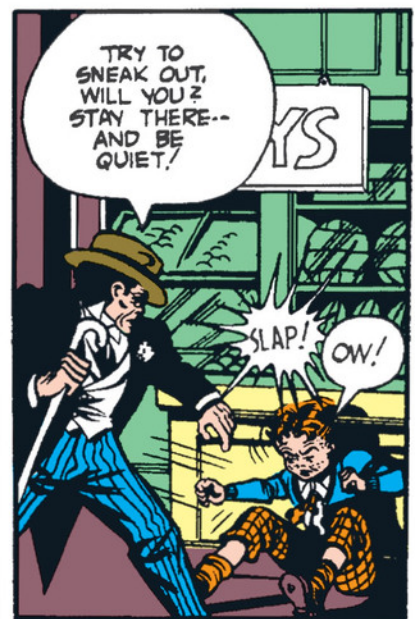
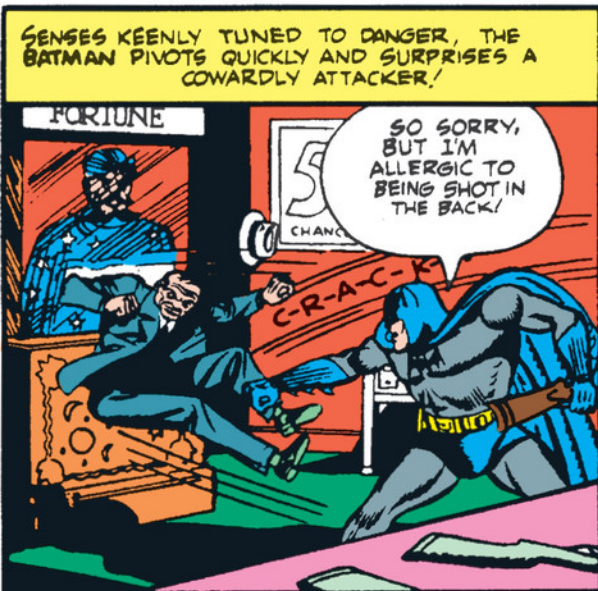
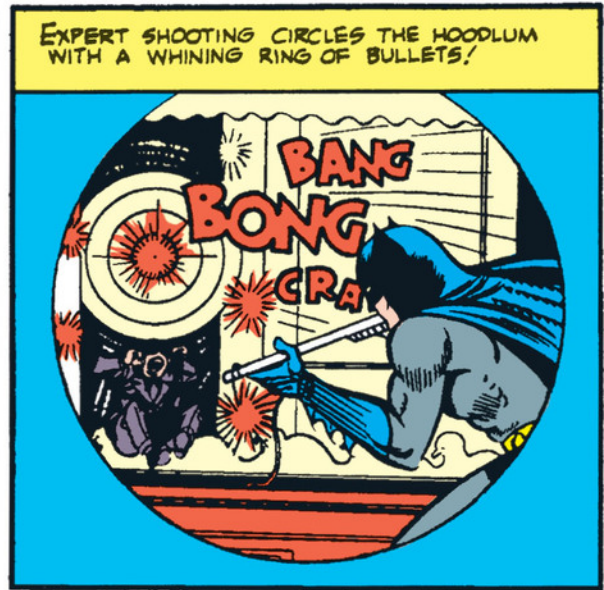
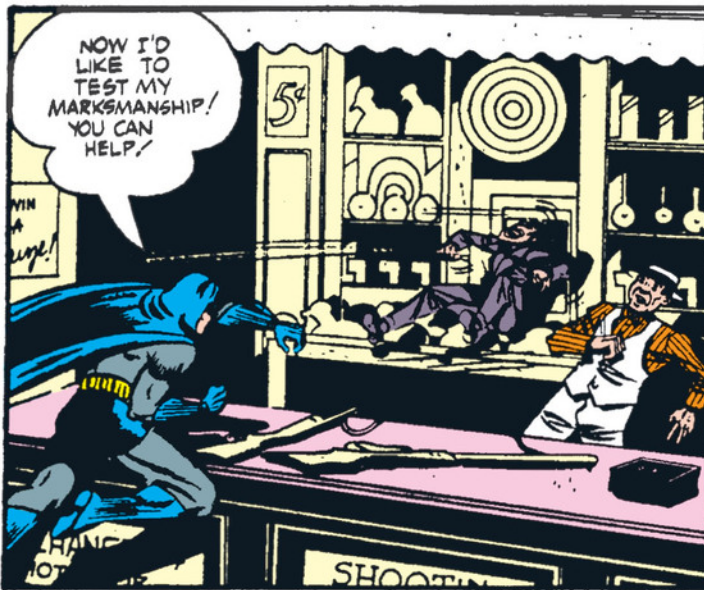
THE INSTANT THE THUG LEAVES TO INVESTIGATE, THE BATMAN PUSHES A FERN FORWARD---

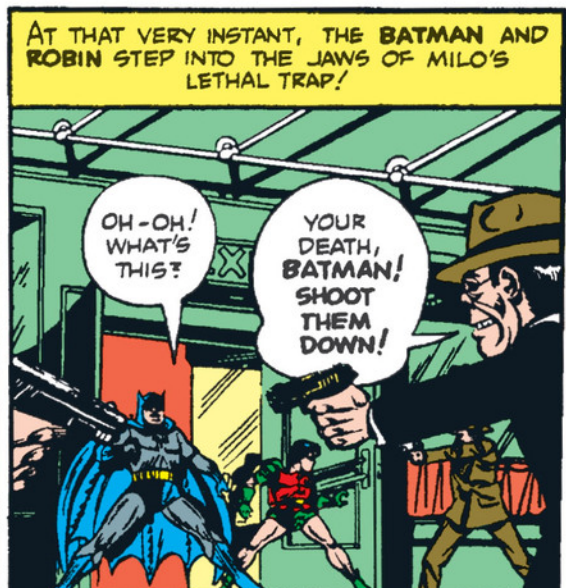
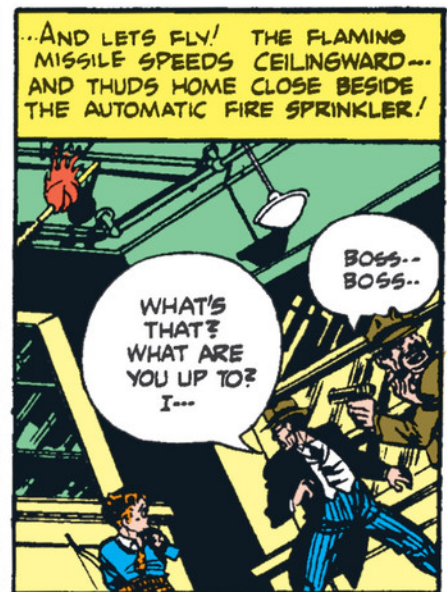
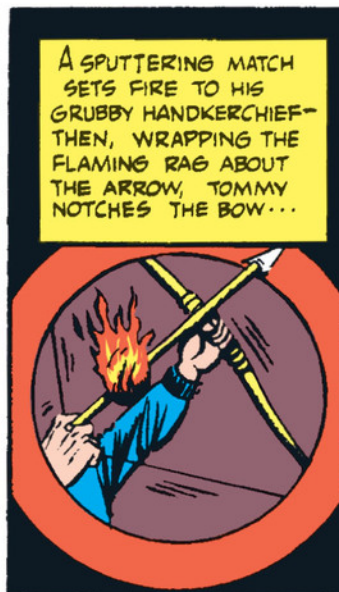
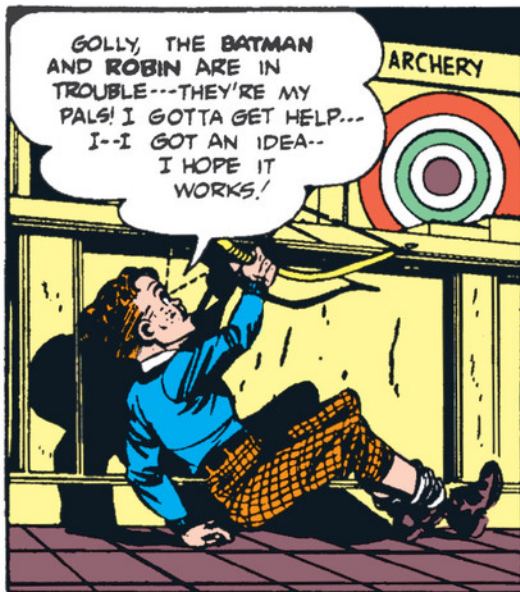
RIGHT NEXT TO THE STEAM AND THE CHAIR --- THIS HAD BETTER WORK OR ELSE!











REINFORCEMENTS SUDDENLY APPEAR! A FIRE BRIGADE CHARGES IN AND QUICKLY TAKES STOCK OF THE SITUATION!

NO FIRE HERE! LOOK! BATMAN AND ROBIN FIGHTING TOUGHS! LET'S MAKE IT HOT FOR THE BUMS!

MILO AND HIS MOB ARE PUT OUT---BUT GOOD!

YOU'RE NOT SO HOT!

YOU'RE GOING TO SNIFF LILIES FROM NOW ON, MILO!

SOME TIME AFTER--- THREE FIGURES WALK DOWN A WINDING ROAD---

HOW DID YOU KNOW HEAT SETS OFF CEILING FIRE SPRINKLERS AND SENDS AN ALARM TO THE FIREHOUSE?

MY TEACHER TAUGHT ME THAT IN MY CIVICS CLASS DURING FIRE PREVENTION WEEK!

THAT'S MY HOUSE! GOLLY, I'M AFRAID OF SCHOOL AGAIN. I ALWAYS GET BAD REPORT CARDS!

ANY BOY WHO CAN THINK AS CLEARLY IN TIGHT SPOTS AS YOU DO SHOULD BE GOOD IN SCHOOL!

WE WON'T FORGET YOU SO EASILY, TOMMY!

YOU'RE GOING AWAY NOW. I'LL ---I'LL NEVER SEE YOU AGAIN---

THIS IS A SMALL WORLD, TOMMY. YOU NEVER CAN TELL WHEN OR WHERE WE'RE LIKELY TO MEET AGAIN---

AND SO, JUST AS PALE DAWN CREEPS OVER THE HORIZON-- A VERY EXCITEMENT-WEARY LITTLE BOY SNEAKS NOISELESSLY HOME---

GOODBYE, BATMAN AND ROBIN.... GOODBYE---

AND NOT SO LONG AFTER--

MOTHER--MOTHER---

TOMMY, GET UP FOR SCHOOL--IT'S LA--- WHY, TOMMY--- YOU'RE UP! ALL DRESSED---

MOTHER--MOTHER--- IT'S SO GOOD TO SEE YOU AGAIN!

WHY, TOMMY--- ANYONE WOULD THINK YOU HAD BEEN AWAY FROM ME A LONG TIME INSTEAD OF BEING IN BED AND SLEEPING ALL NIGHT---

TOMMY MAKES A NEW VOW---

AND I'M GOING TO STUDY HARD FROM NOW ON--- NO MORE HOOKY FOR ME!

I DON'T KNOW WHAT HAPPENED TO CHANGE YOU LIKE THIS---BUT WHATEVER IT WAS, I'M GLAD IT HAPPENED-- VERY GLAD!

BATMAN

WITH
ROBIN
- THE BOY WONDER -

ONCE AGAIN BATMAN, DARK
WARRIOR OF THE NIGHT, AND
HIS YOUNG DAREDEVIL AIDE,
ROBIN THE BOY WONDER, CROSS
THE PATH OF AN OLD ENEMY-- THE
BEAUTIFUL QUEEN OF CRIME
KNOWN THROUGHOUT THE
UNDERWORLD AS ---THE CAT-
WOMAN...A STRANGE FIGURE
INDEED... WITH WOMAN'S
BODY AND CAT'S HEAD IS
THE CAT-WOMAN -- CLEVER
MISTRESS OF MENACE!
ONCE AGAIN THE FEMALE
SPITFIRE BARES HER CLAWS AND
WAGES HER NINE LIVES IN A
MIGHTY DUEL WITH THE
DYNAMIC DUO AS THE
MASTER SWORDSMEN OF
JUSTICE STRIVE TO VANQUISH--
"THE PRINCESS
OF PLUNDER!"

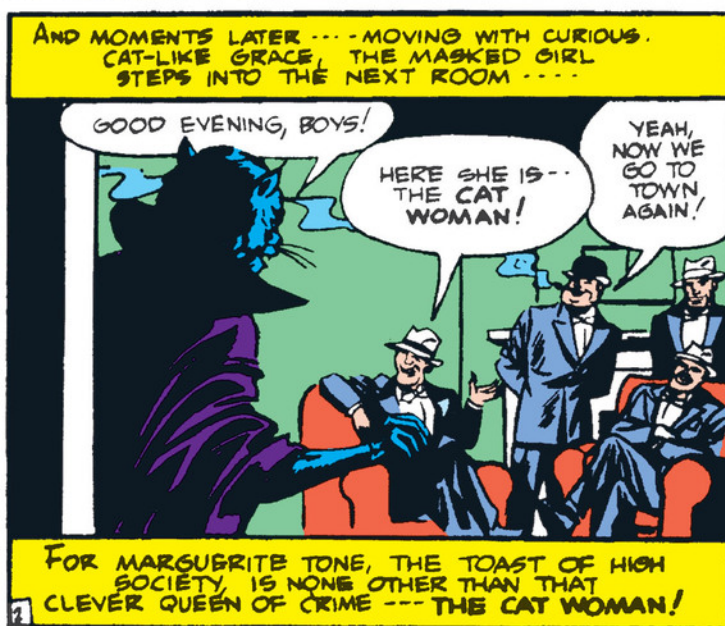
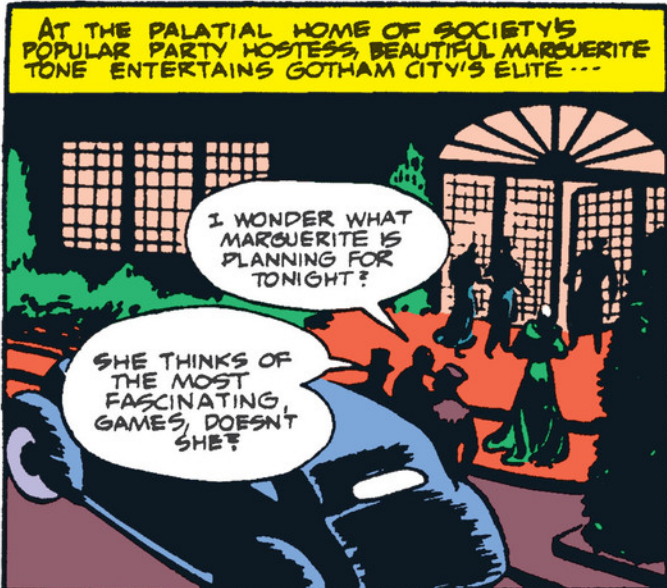
JOE
KANE



IT IS A CALM, PEACEFUL EVENING AND
BRUCE WAYNE AND DICK GRAYSON FIND
THEMSELVES BORED BY INACTIVITY...

DICK, I THINK THE
COSTUMES OF BATMAN
AND ROBIN NEED AN
AIRING,
DON'T
YOU?

SUITS ME! FOR
A WHILE I WAS
AFRAID YOU'D
ATTEND
MARGUERITE
TONE'S PARTY
TONIGHT
INSTEAD!



STILL LATER, IN THE HEART OF GOTHAM CITY.

CAN I SEE MR. VANDERWELL? I HAVE TO GET HIS AUTOGRAPH FOR MARGUERITE TONE'S SCAVENGER HUNT PARTY, SEE?

OH, MISS TONE? COME RIGHT IN, I'LL CALL THE MASTER!

IT WORKED! NOW TO GET THAT FANCY DOODAD THE CAT-WOMAN WANTS ME TO SWIPE! THERE IT IS!

SWIFTLY, THE HENCHMAN POKETS THE PRICELESS, JEWELLED HEIRLOOM OF THE VANDERWELL FAMILY ---

AH! YOU WISH MY AUTOGRAPH? IT WILL BE A PLEASURE TO OBLIGE ONE OF MISS TONE'S GUESTS!

THANKS! THE PLEASURE IS ALL MINE!

BACKSTAGE, IN THE DRESSING ROOM OF A DOWNTOWN THEATRE---

BOY, THOSE JEWELS MUST BE WORTH A FORTUNE! WHAT A HAUL!

A THIEF! I'LL CALL THE POLICE!

NOW WAIT A MINUTE, LADY! I'M NOT A THIEF! I'M FROM MARGUERITE TONE'S SCAVENGER HUNT! I'M ONLY LOOKING FOR A FAMOUS ACTRESS'S EYEBROW PENCIL! SEE... IT SAYS SO DOWN HERE ON THIS LIST!

OH, THAT'S DIFFERENT! OF COURSE YOU CAN HAVE THE PENCIL-- AND GIVE MY REGARDS TO MARGUERITE!

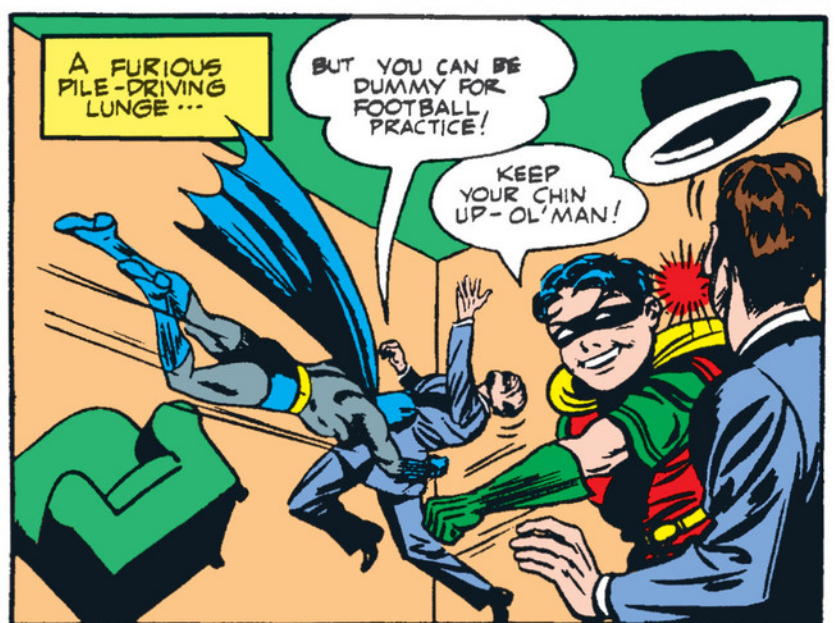
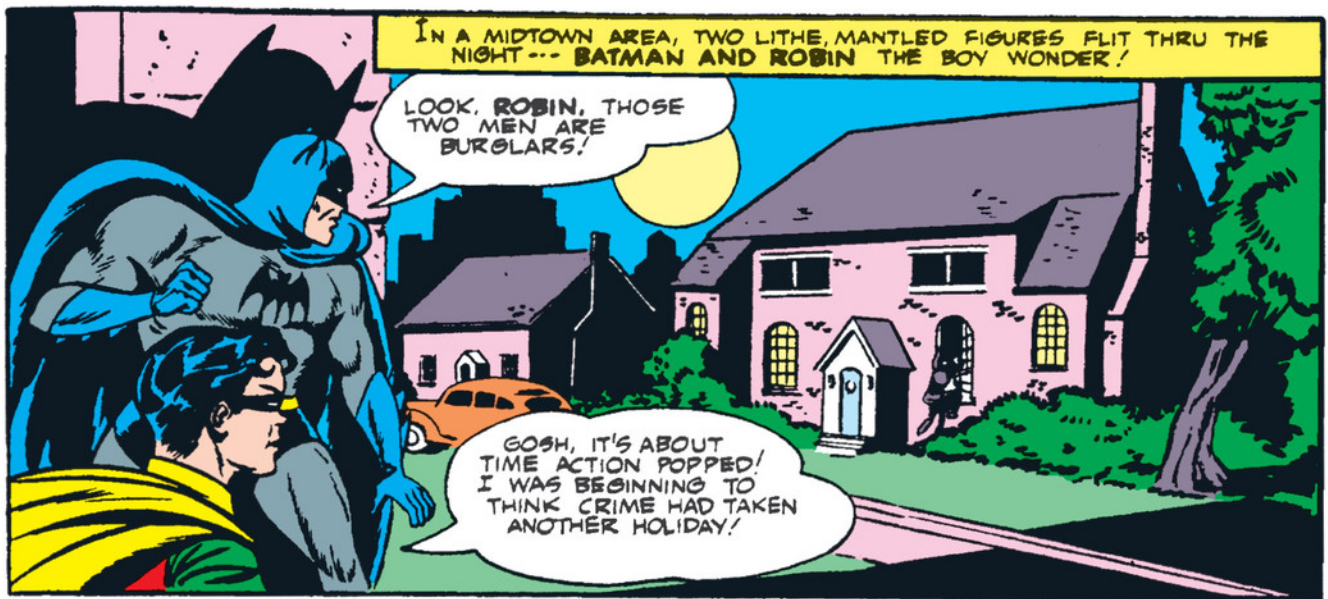
ONCE OUTSIDE--

LEAVE IT TO THE CAT-WOMAN! IF WE GET CAUGHT, WE DON'T GET NABBED! WE GOT ALIBIS! HA! HA! THAT'S RICH!

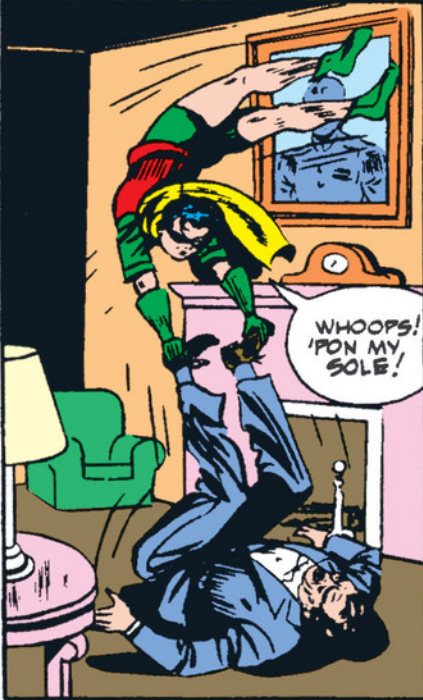
THROUGHOUT THE CITY, THE CRIME QUEEN'S MINIONS SNATCH THEIR LOOT UNDER GUISE OF SOCIETY'S "SCAVENGER HUNT."

I'M SUPPOSED TO BRING BACK A LADY'S BEDROOM SLIPPER! I LIKE THIS BETTER---HA! HA!

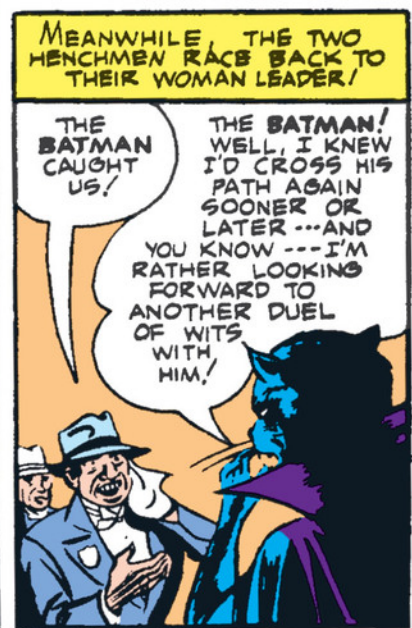
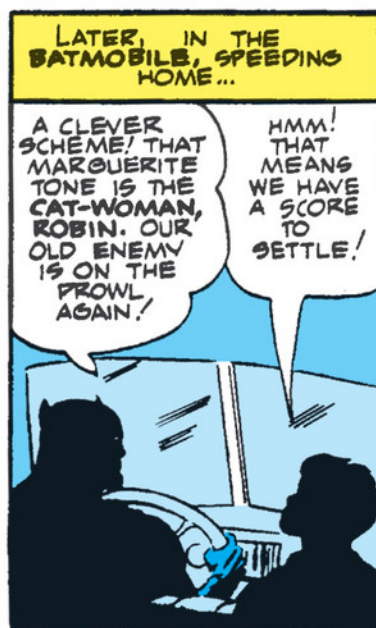
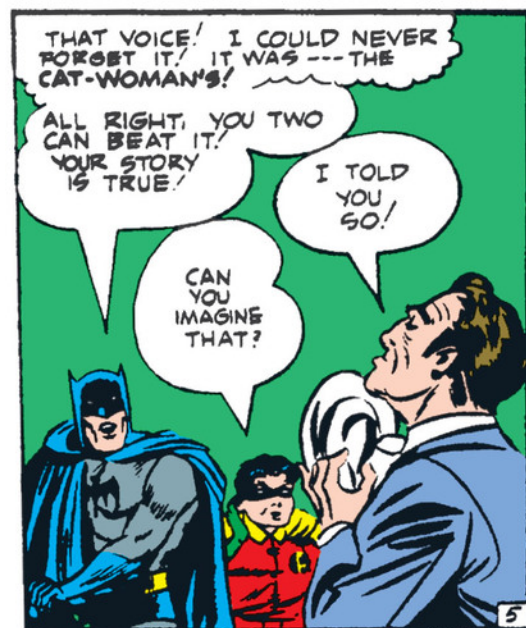
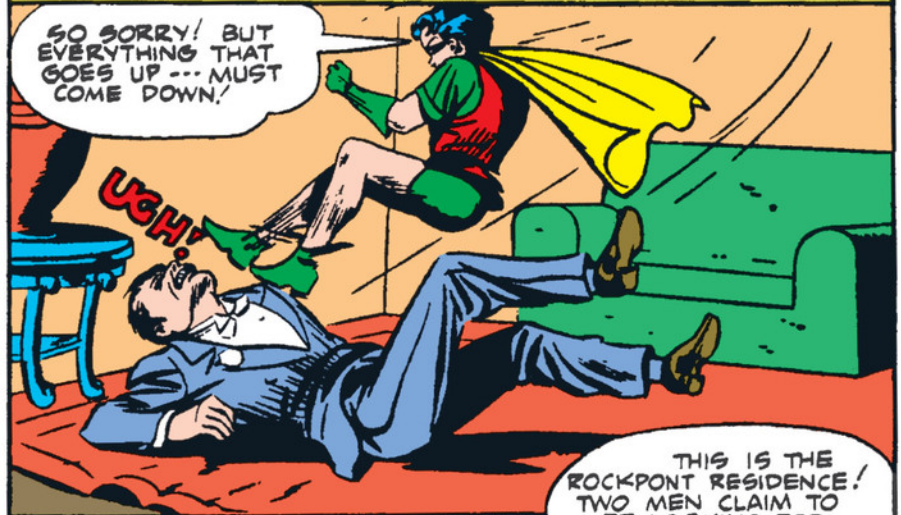
ONLY WAY I COULD GET INTO THAT RITZY GAMBLING JOINT--WITH MY SCAVENGER HUNT BADGE! INSTEAD OF THE POKER CHIP I CAME FOR, I SWIPED ALL THE DOUGH!



ROBIN IS GREETED BY A PAIR OF FEET --- BOTTOMS UP!



BUT WITH AN AGILE TWIST, THE BOY WONDER SPINS INTO AN ACROBATIC SOMERSAULT AND---



LATER, IN THE BATMOBILE, SPEEDING HOME...



MEANWHILE, THE TWO HENCHMEN RACE BACK TO THEIR WOMAN LEADER!



A FEW DAYS LATER, IN
BRUCE WAYNE'S MORNING MAIL---

WELL, WELL! MARGUERITE
TONE IS GIVING ANOTHER PARTY
TOMORROW NIGHT! "COME
DRESSED AS YOUR FAVORITE
CHARACTER!"

SHE MUST
HAVE SOMETHING
UP HER SLEEVE.
ARE YOU GOING,
BRUCE?



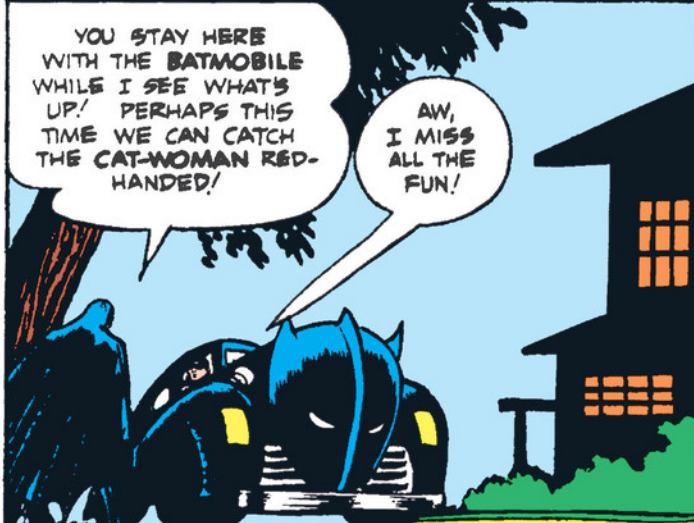
YES...AND
AS MY
FAVORITE
CHARACTER!
GUESS WHO!



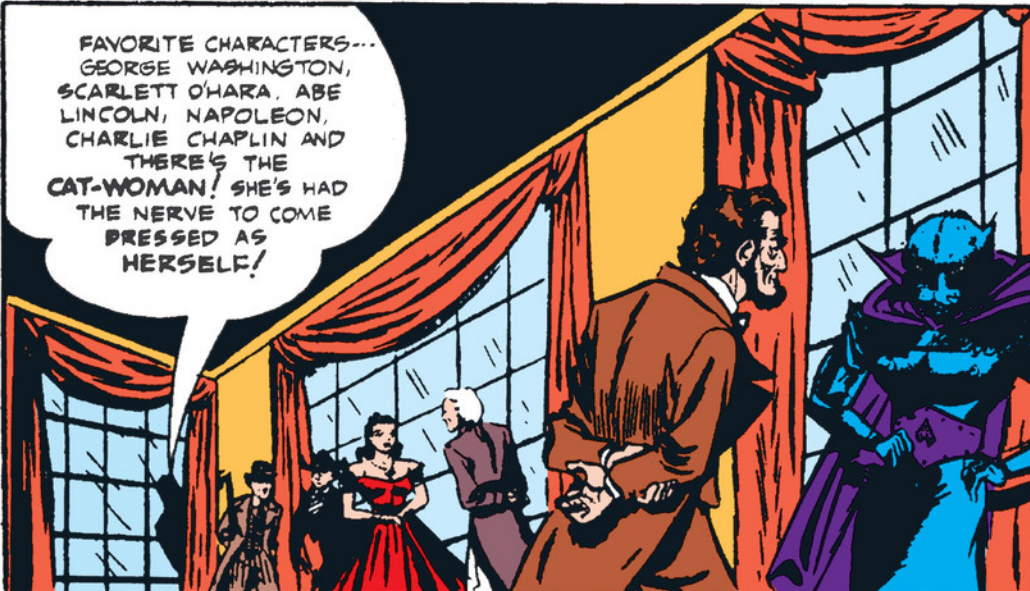
THE NEXT NIGHT---

YOU STAY HERE
WITH THE BATMOBILE
WHILE I SEE WHAT'S
UP! PERHAPS THIS
TIME WE CAN CATCH
THE CAT-WOMAN RED-
HANDED!

AW,
I MISS
ALL THE
FUN!



FAVORITE CHARACTERS---
GEORGE WASHINGTON,
SCARLETT O'HARA, ABE
LINCOLN, NAPOLEON,
CHARLIE CHAPLIN AND
THERE'S THE
CAT-WOMAN! SHE'S HAD
THE NERVE TO COME
DRESSED AS
HERSELF!



BOLDLY, THE BATMAN
ENTERS, MINGLES WITH
THE COSTUME-CLAD
GUESTS!

LOOK---
ANOTHER
BATMAN!
MY FAVORITE
CHARACTER!



ANOTHER
BATMAN! WHAT
DOES SHE
MEAN?

THE CRIME-FIGHTER'S SEARCHING EYES SOON DISCOVER
THE ANSWER --- SEVERAL BATMEN MEET HIS ASTOUNDED
GAZE --- FAT ONES, TALL ONES, SHORT ONES!



HOLY COW! THESE
GUESTS HAVE ALL
COME HERE DRESSED
UP AS ME! AND
THEY THINK I'M A
FAKE, TOO!

SAY, YOU
FORGOT TO
BRING ROBIN
THE BOY
WONDER!

HIYA,
BATMAN!

SUDDENLY, THE TALL "BATMAN"
WHISPERS GRUFFLY TO THE NEW ARRIVAL -

IT'S ABOUT TIME YOU
GOT HERE, DUKE! C'MON,
WE'VE GOT TO JOIN
THE CAT-WOMAN! SHE'S
GOING UPSTAIRS WITH
THE OTHERS.

SO I WAS
RIGHT! MY
OLD ENEMY
IS BEHIND
THIS!

OKAY!
LEAD
ON!



UPSTAIRS, IN THE CAT-WOMAN'S SITTING ROOM, FOUR FIGURES ROBED IN THE BATMAN'S DARK DENIM DISCUSS -CRIME!

LISTEN, MEN! DISGUISED AS THE BATMAN, YOU CAN GAIN ENTRY ANYWHERE! SAY YOU'RE LOOKING FOR A CRIMINAL. THEN ROB THE PLACE. IF YOU'RE NABBED, TELL 'EM YOU'RE FROM MARGUERITE TONE'S 'FAVORITE CHARACTER PARTY' AND IT'S ALL A PUBLICITY STUNT!

WONDER WHAT THE CAT-WOMAN WOULD THINK IF SHE KNEW I WAS THE REAL MECOY?

HA! IS THAT A JOKE ON THE REAL BATMAN!



ABRUPTLY, THE DOOR BURSTS OPEN AND

I'M LATE ---I HAD A FLAT TIRE AND WAS DELAYED!

SOMETHING'S WRONG! THERE ARE ONLY SUPPOSED TO BE FOUR OF YOU HERE! ONE OF YOU IS AN IMPOSTOR --- TAKE OFF YOUR MASKS!



THE BATMAN IS TRAPPED --- BUT UNDISMAYED!

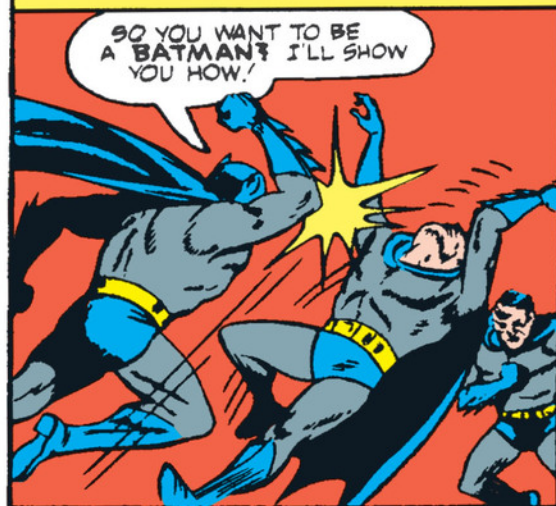
I'LL KEEP MINE ON, IF YOU DON'T MIND! MY FACE IS MY FORTUNE!

AFTER HIM! HE'S THE REAL BATMAN!



BUT LIKE A STEEL SPRING SUDDENLY RELEASED, THE CRIME-FIGHTER UNCOILS INTO ACTION!

SO YOU WANT TO BE A BATMAN? I'LL SHOW YOU HOW!



THEY'RE ALL MIXED UP BY THE COSTUMES! HERE I AM, MUGOS!



SUDDENLY, SWIFT AS A STRIKING PUMA, THE CRIME QUEEN'S SLIM HANDS STREAK OUT---

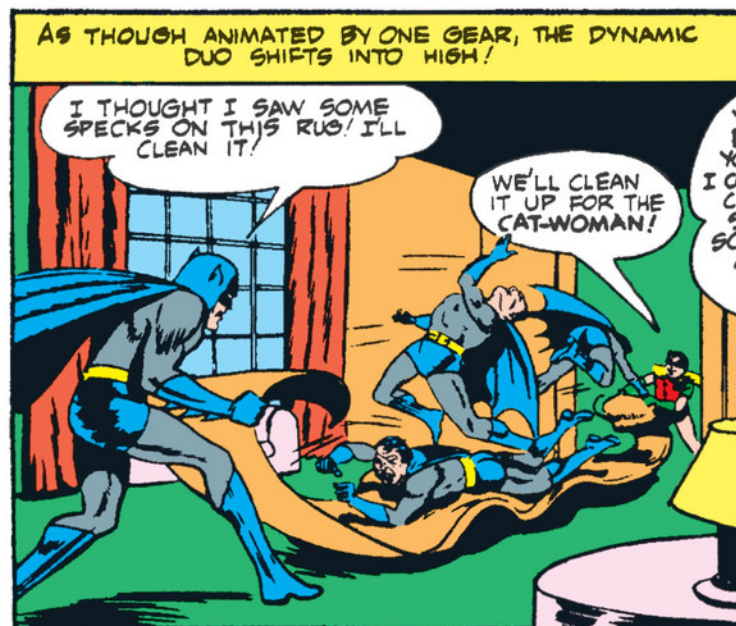
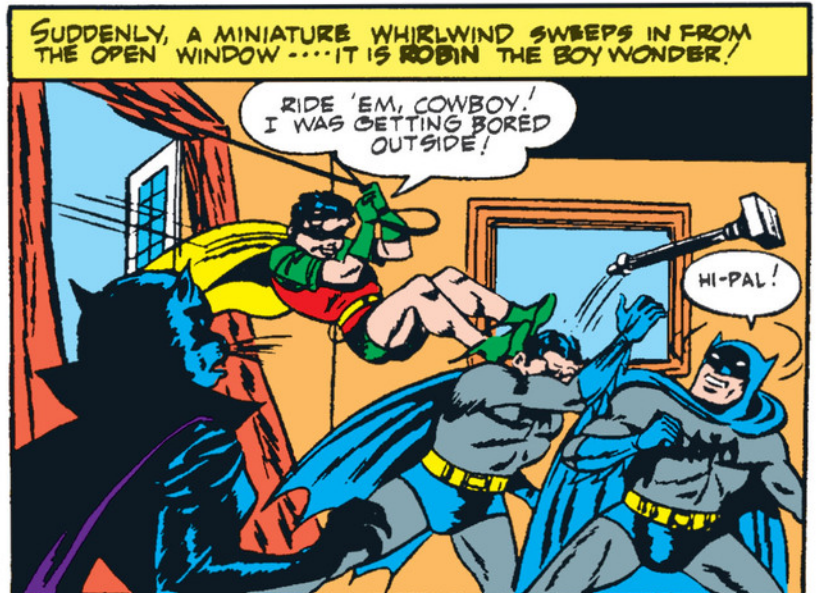
I'LL GET YOU MYSELF!



BUT BATMAN HAS SPIED CAT-WOMAN'S REFLECTION IN THE MIRROR --- AND MOVES WITH THE BLURRING SPEED OF LIGHT---

IS THAT NICE? TAKE A LITTLE NAP --- YOU'RE ALL EXCITED!





A WEEK PASSES, AND BRUCE WAYNE WAITS IMPATIENTLY FOR THE CAT-WOMAN'S NEXT MOVE...

THAT WOMAN IS TOO QUIET! IT'S LIKE THE LULL BEFORE THE STORM!

MAYBE SHE GOT FRIGHTENED AND DECIDED TO END HER CRIME CAREER!

BUT, AT THAT MOMENT, THE CUNNING ADVENTURESS IS PLOTTING HER GREATEST COUP!

NOW, MARGUERITE, YOU MUST TELL US WHERE YOU HIRE YOUR SERVANTS! THEY'RE PERFECTLY GROOMED!

CERTAINLY!

LATER, AT THE ACE EMPLOYMENT SERVICE... IN THE BACK ROOM.

HURRY UP AND FINISH THOSE LESSONS. YOU'VE GOT TO KNOW HOW TO ACT AS SERVANTS. WE'VE ALREADY GOTTEN ORDERS!

DINNER IS SOVED-- I MEAN SERVED!

I BEG YOUR PAWDON, MRS. FITSBUILT. THE MARSTER IS NOT HEAH! HA! HA! I'M LOINING!

PRESENTLY... UNSUSPECTING SOCIETY OPENS ITS HOMES TO THE MEMBERS OF THE CAT-WOMAN'S GANG!

MY NEW BUTLER... ISN'T HE MARVELOUS? MARGUERITE TONE RECOMMENDED HIM!

HE'S A BIT ECCENTRIC, BUT MARGUERITE TONE CAN'T BE WRONG! HE'S SO DIFFERENT FROM OTHER SERVANTS, IT'S A RELIEF!

AND, DURING A FESTIVE DINNER AT THE RESIDENCE OF ONE OF HIS FRIENDS, BRUCE WAYNE IS STARTLED TO SEE...

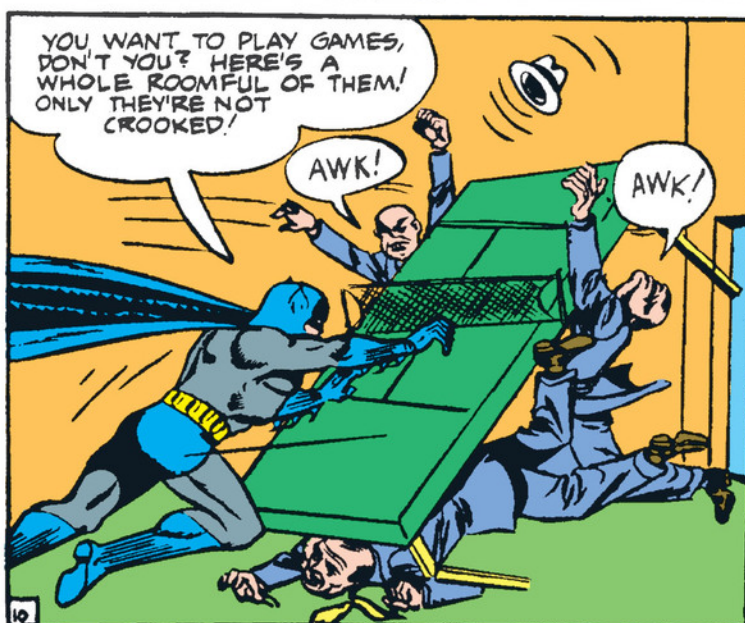
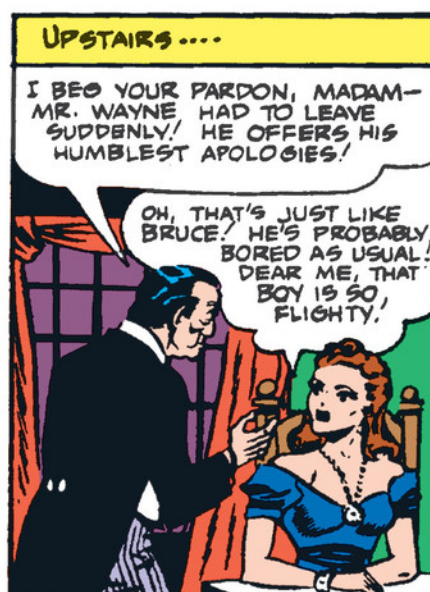
SILKY DAVIS! WHAT'S THAT CROOK DOING HERE AS A BUTLER?

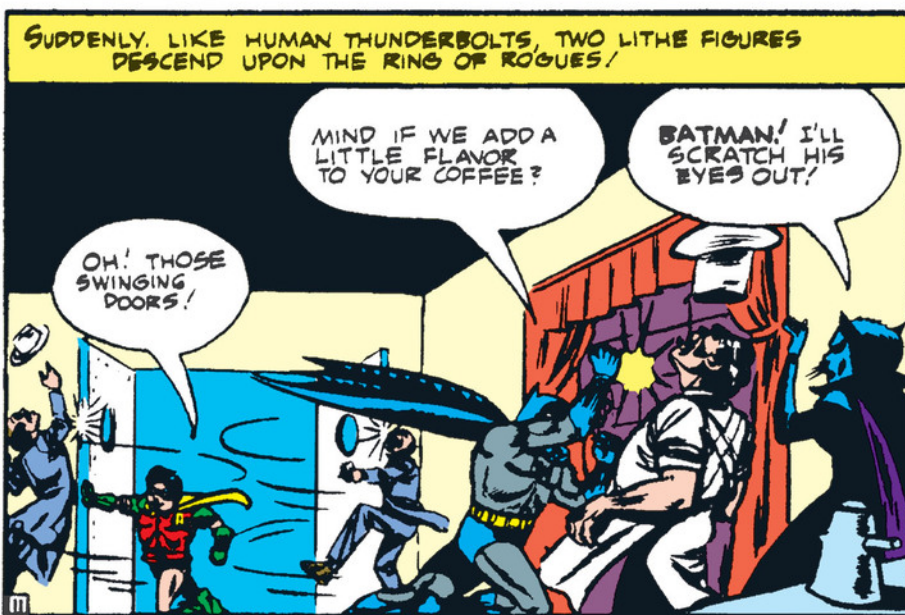
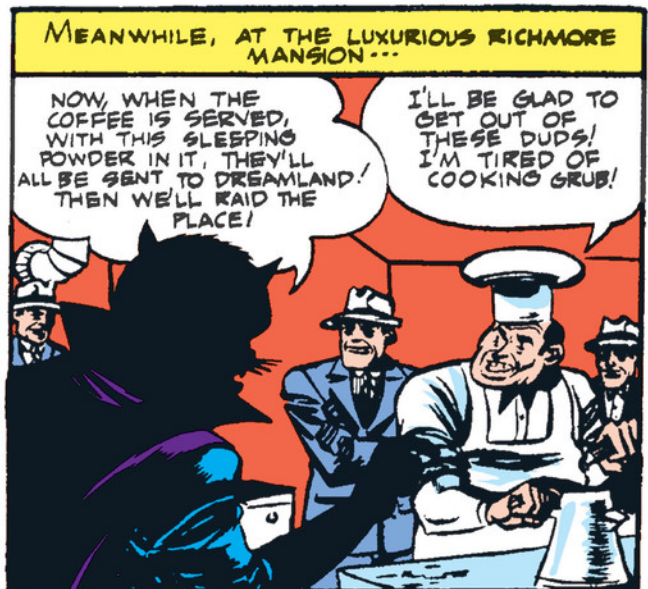
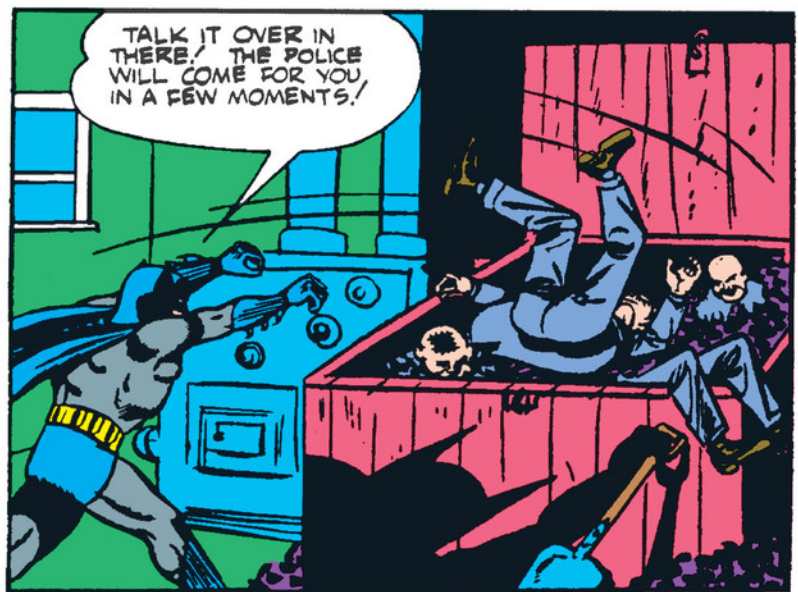
POLITELY EXCUSING HIMSELF, BRUCE SURREPTITIOUSLY TRAILS THE BUTLER DOWNSTAIRS TO THE SERVANTS' QUARTERS...

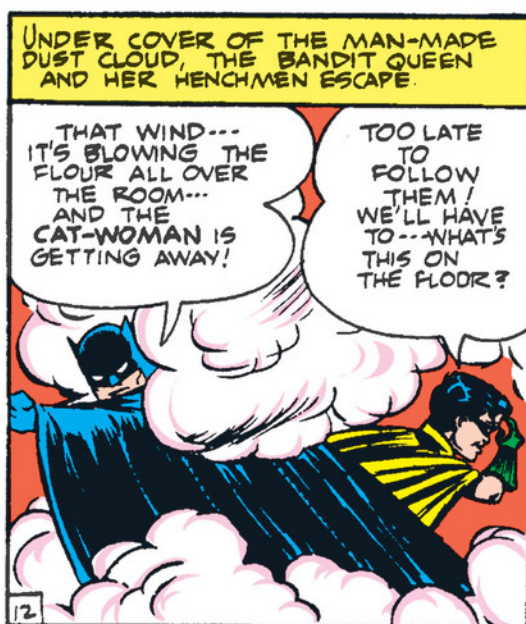
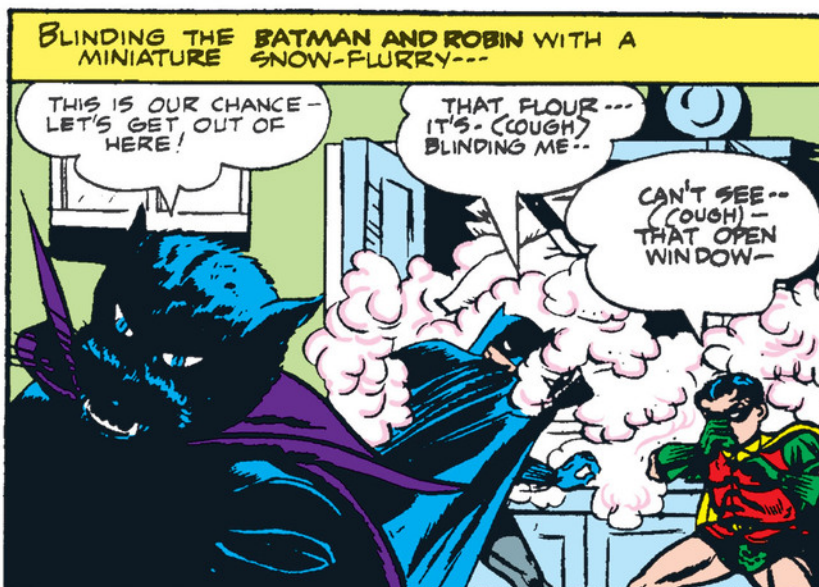
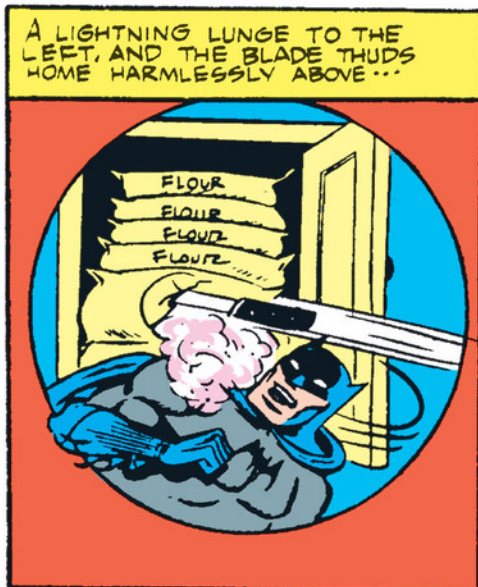
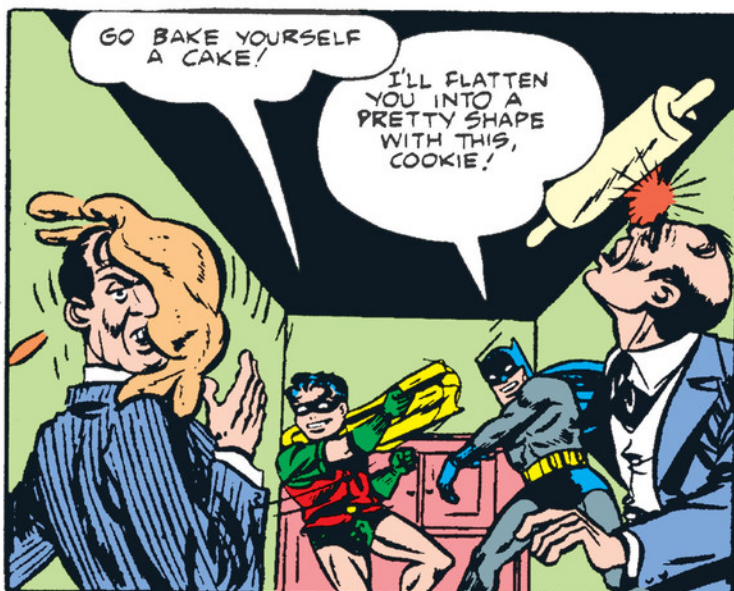
OKAY, SILKY. WE'VE CLEANED EVERYTHING OUT OF THIS JOINT! THE CAT SAYS ALL THE PLACES ARE GONNA BE ROBBED TONIGHT!

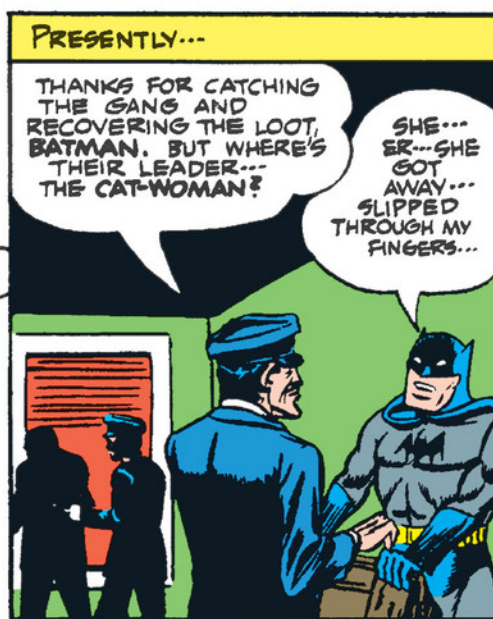
I THOUGHT SO -- THE CAT-WOMAN AGAIN! SHE MUST HAVE PLANTED CROOKS IN ALL THE WEALTHY HOMES.

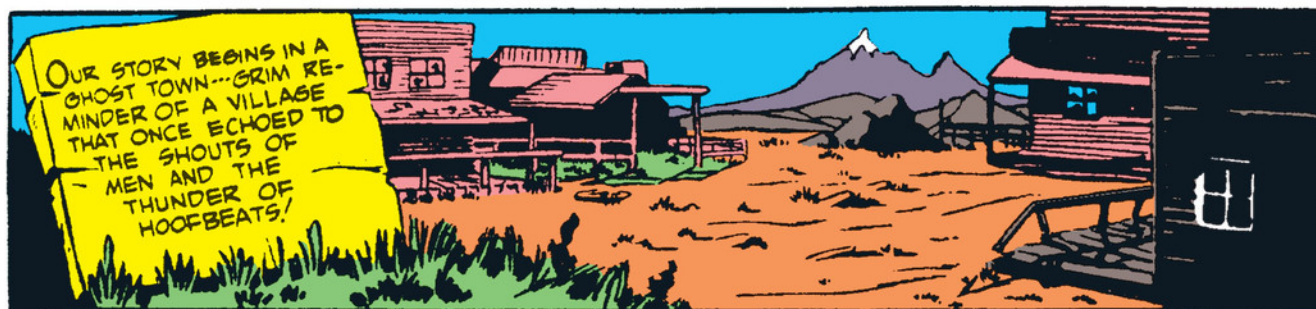
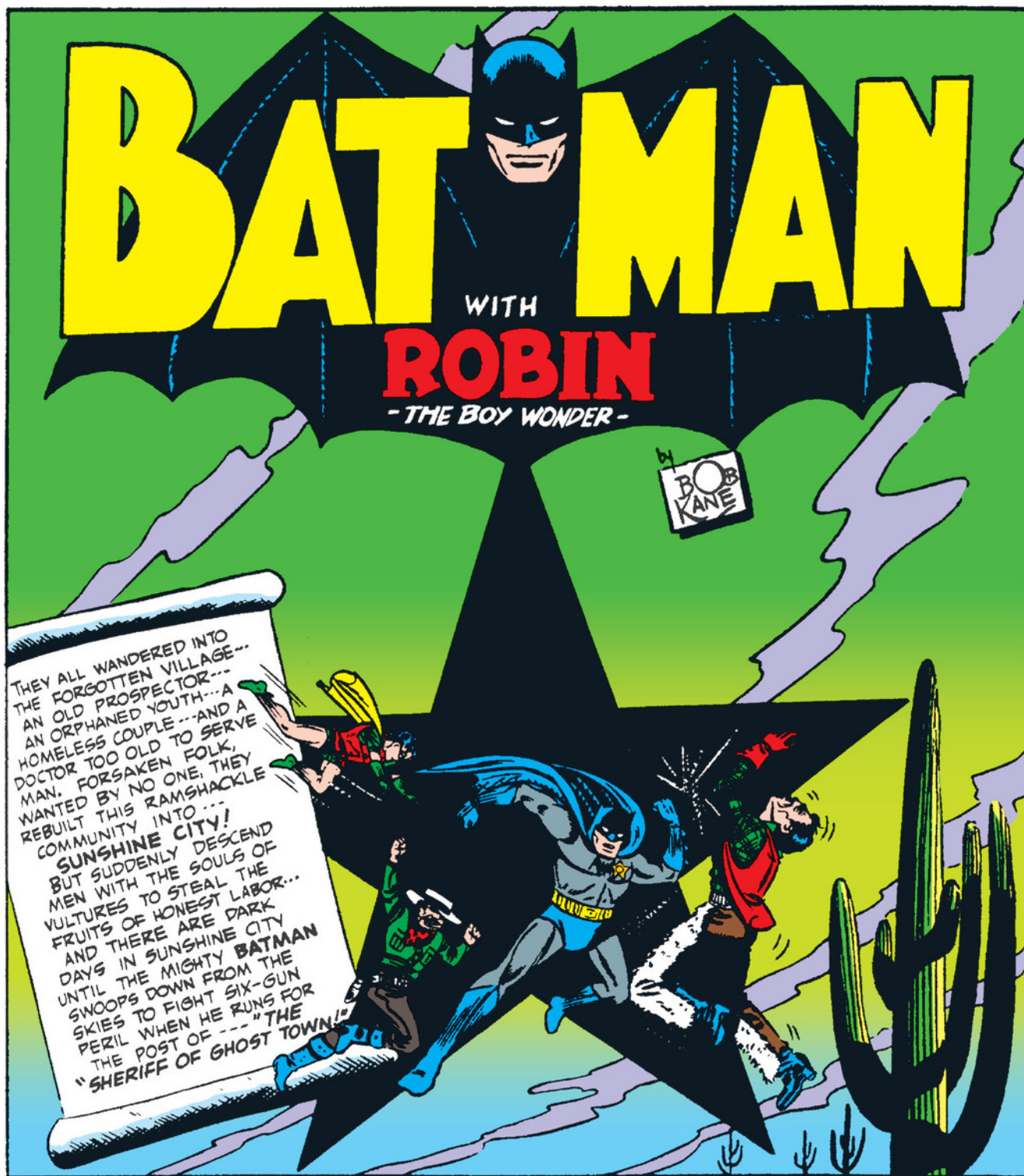
IN A FEW MINUTES, FOLLOW ME UPSTAIRS! YOU CAN ROB THOSE RICH MUGGS AT THE DINNER TABLE AND THEN JOIN THE CAT-WOMAN! AND DON'T FORGET TO FRISK THAT PLAY-BOY, BRUCE WAYNE. HE MUST BE CARRYING A BIG ROLL!











INTO THIS FORGOTTEN VILLAGE ONE DAY STRAY TWO DUSTY TRAVELERS...CACTUS TOM, AN OLD PROSPECTOR, AND YOUNG JOE JEFFERS, THE SON OF HIS DEAD PARTNER

CACTUS TOM, WHY IS THIS TOWN DESERTED?

IT'S CITIZENS WERE CURSED WITH GOLD FEVER, LAD! WHEN THEY HEARD OF RICHER STRIKES ELSEWHERE, THEY LIT OUT AND NEVER CAME BACK!



THERE'S STILL SOME GOLD HEREABOUTS, SON. WE'RE SETTLEIN' DOWN TO MAKE A STAKE TO SEND YOU TO SCHOOL!

SCHOOL! AN...WELL--WHATEVER YOU SAY--



IN TIME, A FAMILY DRIVEN FROM A DUST-BOWL FARM JOINS THE PAIR...

OUT OF GAS? SORRY... WE AIN'T GOT NONE.... BUT WHY NOT START FARMIN' AGAIN HERE? THERE'S PLENTY OF GOOD LAND AND HOUSES GALORE!

BY GUM, I BELIEVE WE WILL! MY NAME'S SIMMONS---



A DOCTOR JOINS THE REBORN COMMUNITY---

I'M A DOCTOR, LOOKING FOR A PRACTICE -- TOO MANY YOUNGER DOCTORS WHERE I COME FROM!

A DOCTOR? GLORY BE! SIMMONS' WIFE IS SICK, AN' MY RHEUMATIZ IS SOMETHIN' FIERCE, AN'...



IN WEEKS TO COME, OTHER WAYFARERS SETTLE DOWN TO START LIFE ANEW---

PLENTY DOING IN THE CARPENTRY LINE...AN' I GLAD! HOW'RE YOU DOIN', BARBER?

NOT MUCH BUSINESS YET... BUT IT'LL COME!



GRATEFUL FOR THE PROSPERITY THAT HAS REWARDED THEIR LABORS, THE EX-WANDERERS CHRISTEN THE NAMELESS TOWN --

MOST OF US WAS OLD FOLKS, WITH CLOUDS OVER US, TILL WE RAN INTO CLEAR SKIES HERE! SINCE YUH MADE ME MAYOR, MEBBE I KIN SUGGEST A NAME FER OUR TOWN! HOW 'BOUT SUNSHINE CITY?

SUNSHINE CITY IT IS!

HOORAY!

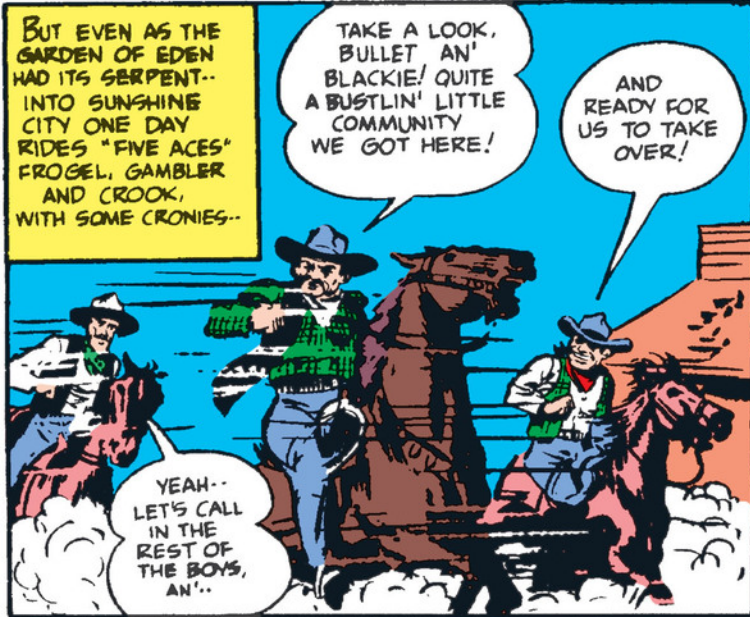


BUT EVEN AS THE GARDEN OF EDEN HAD ITS SERPENT-- INTO SUNSHINE CITY ONE DAY RIDES "FIVE ACES" FROGEL, GAMBLER AND CROOK, WITH SOME CRONIES--

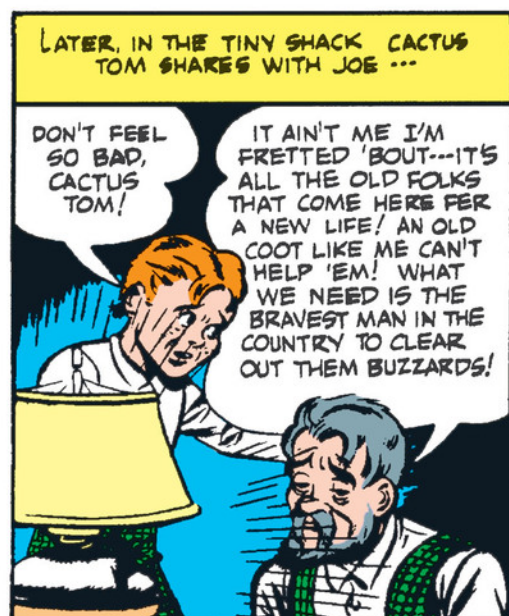
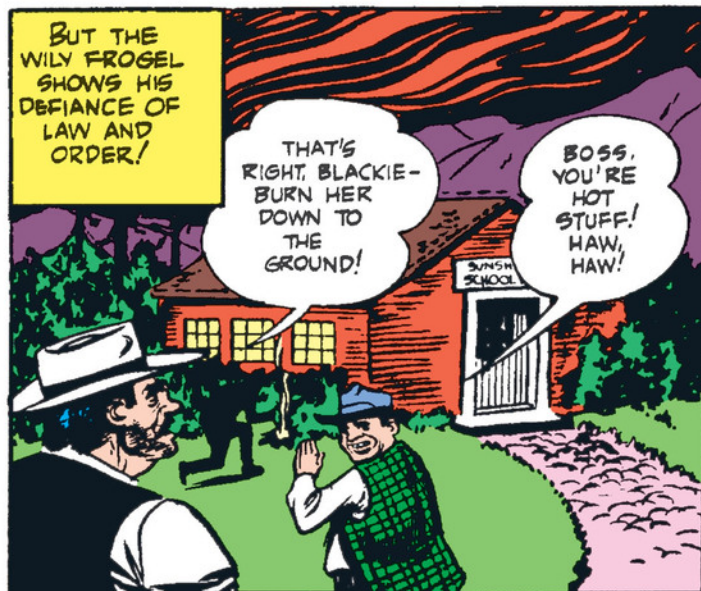
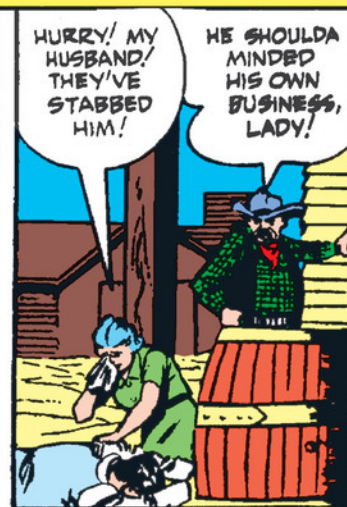
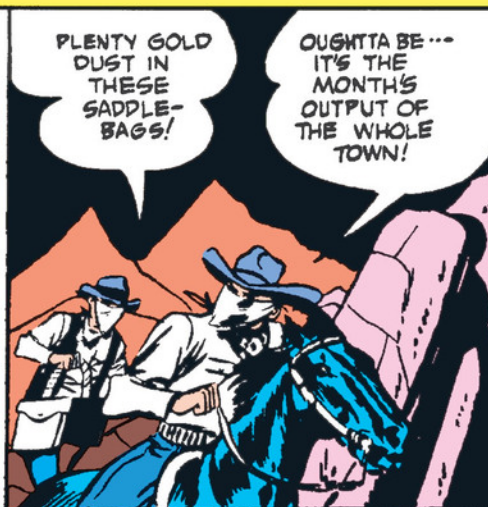
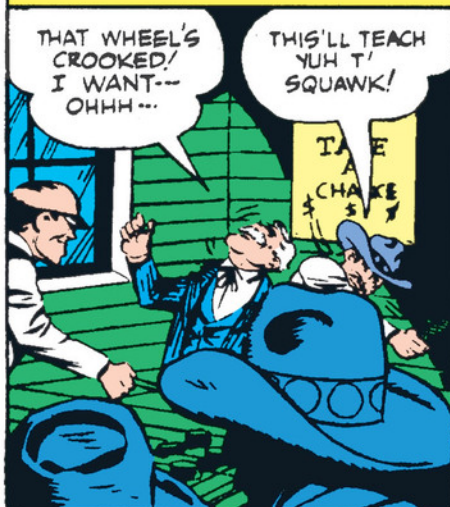
TAKE A LOOK, BULLET AN' BLACKIE! QUITE A BUSTLIN' LITTLE COMMUNITY WE GOT HERE!

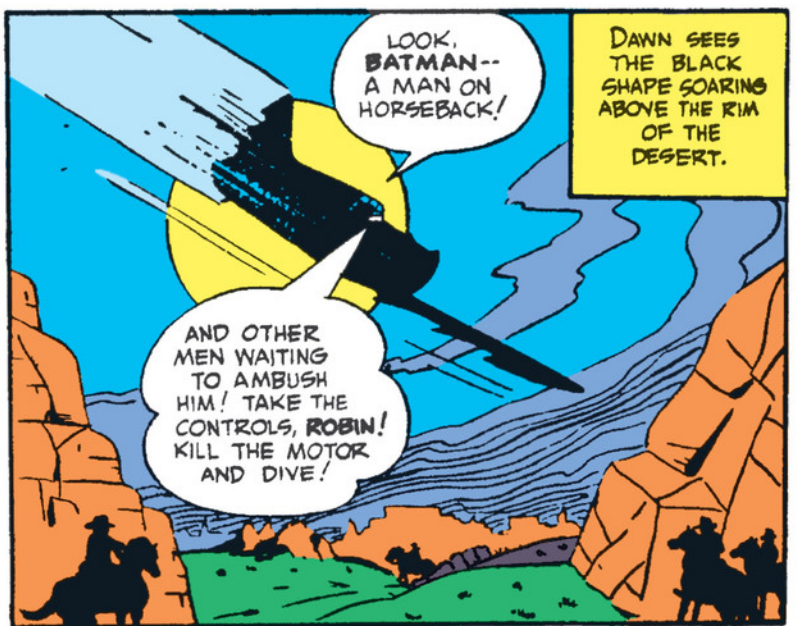
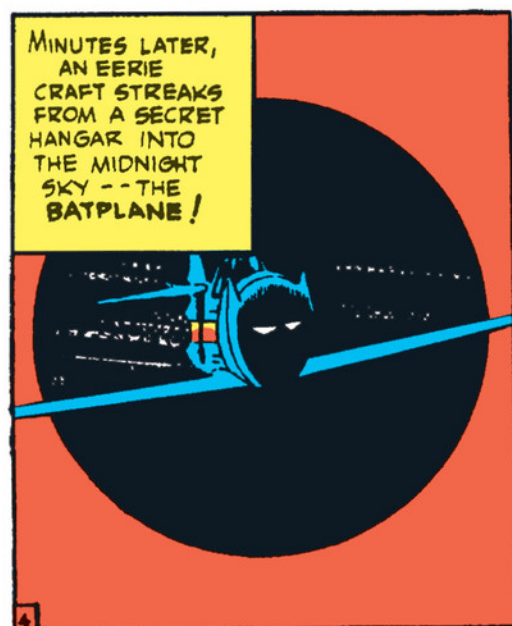
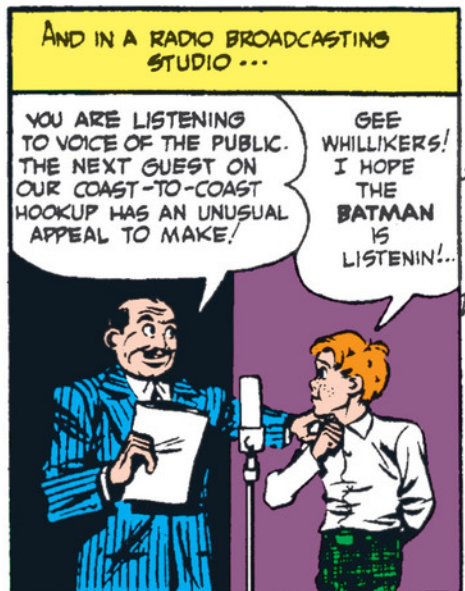
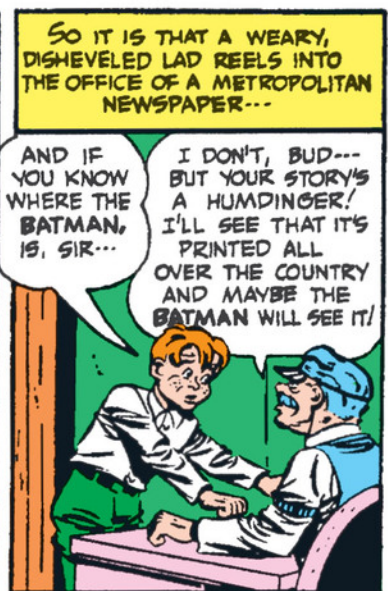
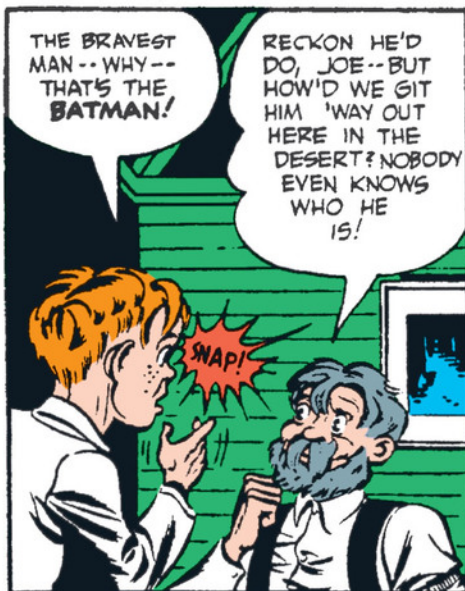
AND READY FOR US TO TAKE OVER!

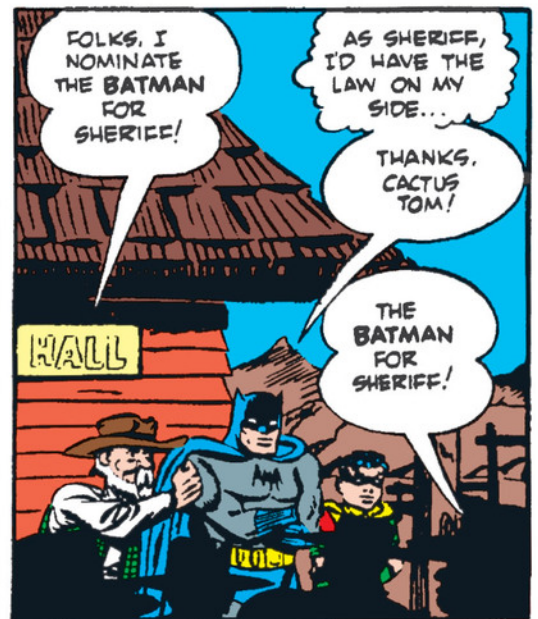
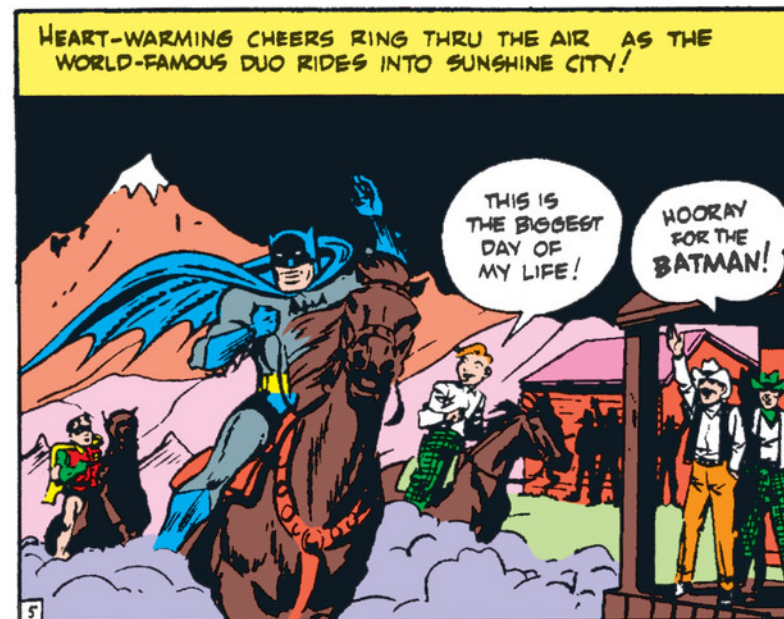
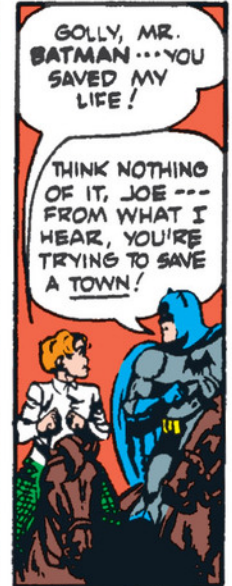
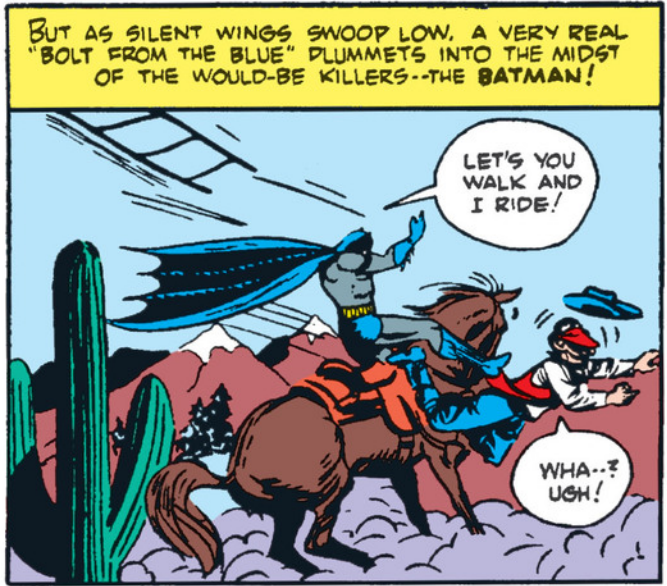
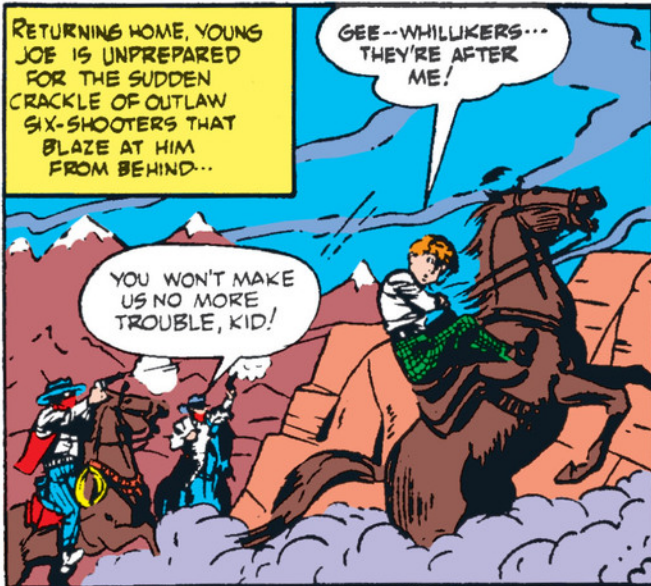
YEAH-- LET'S CALL IN THE REST OF THE BOYS, AN'...



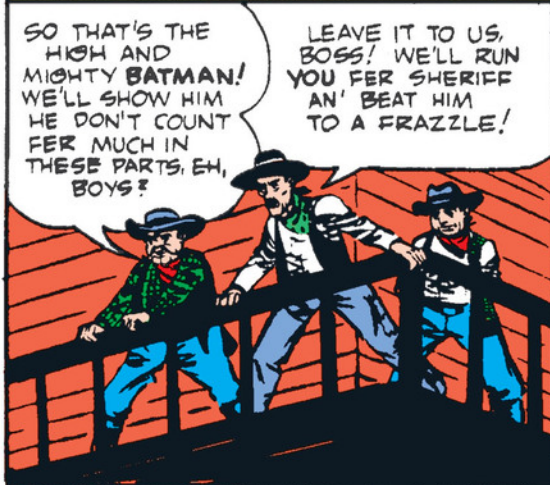
VIOLENCE FLARES...AND BLAZING GUNS AND FLASHING KNIVES TAKE A WANTON TOLL OF LIFE AS FROGEL'S FOLLOWERS POUR INTO TOWN!



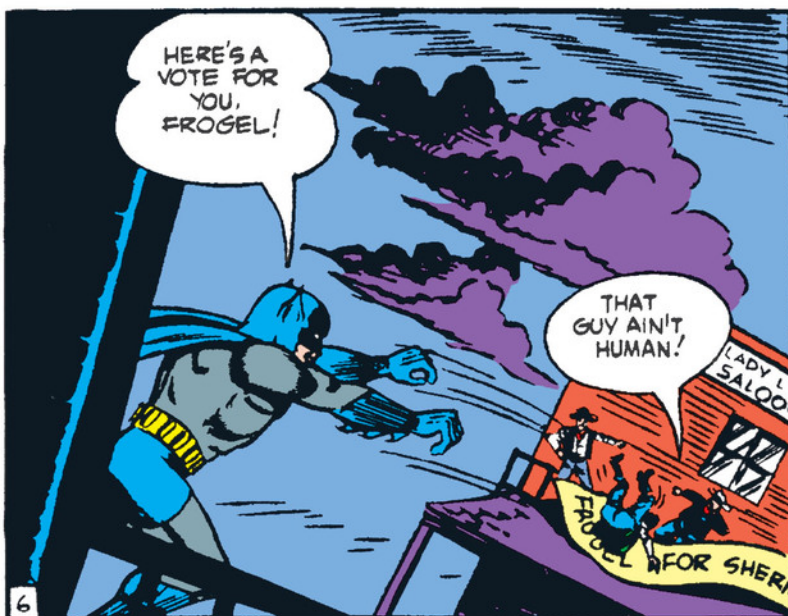
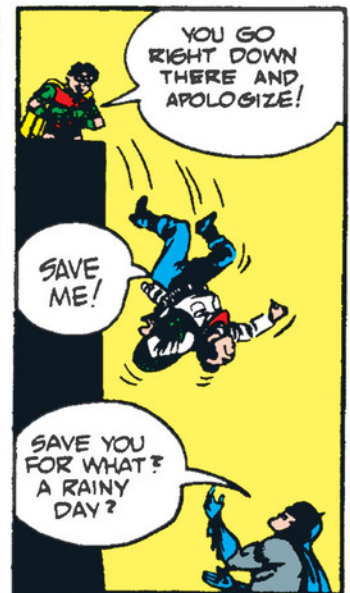
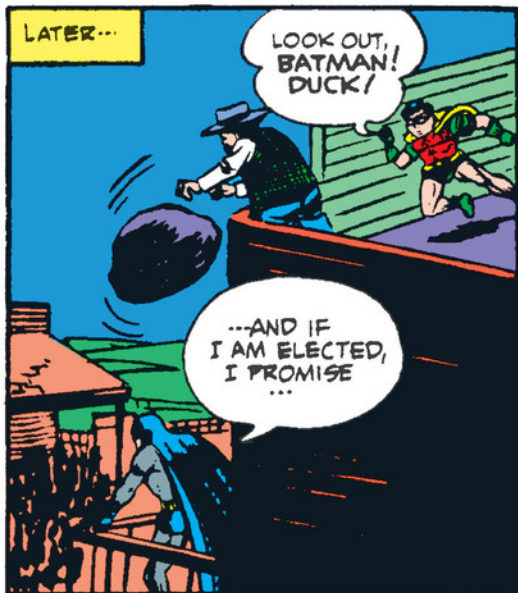
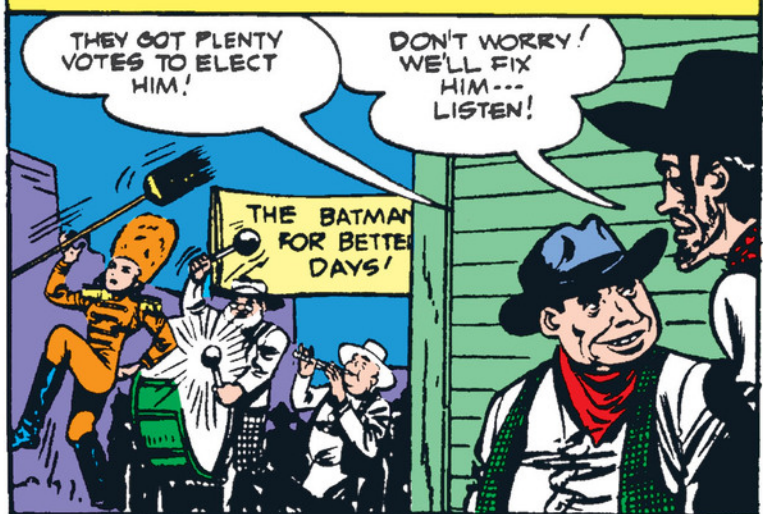


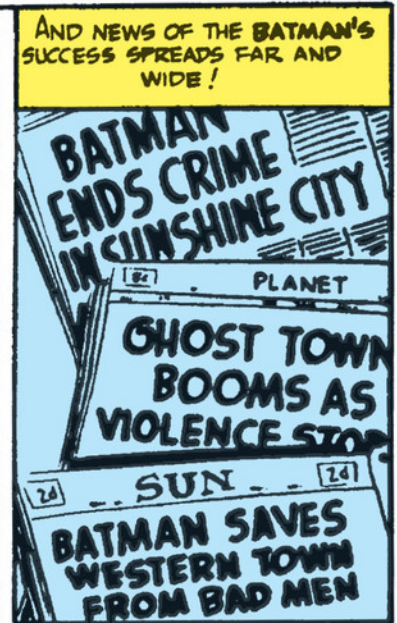
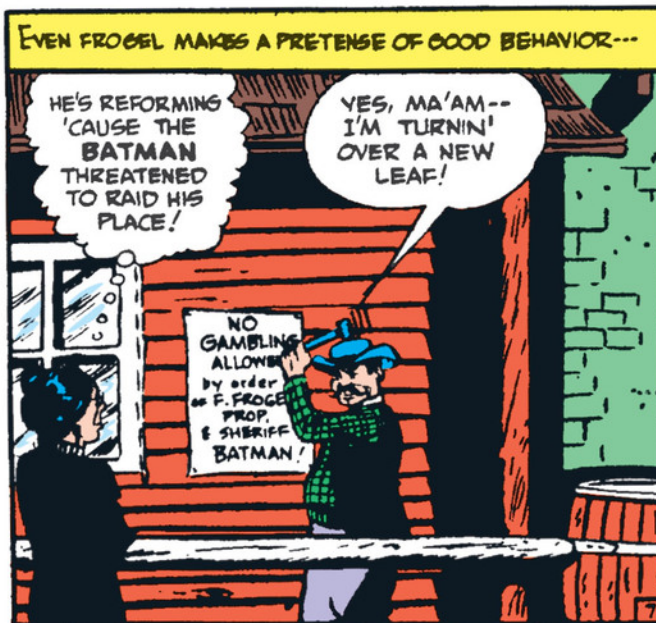
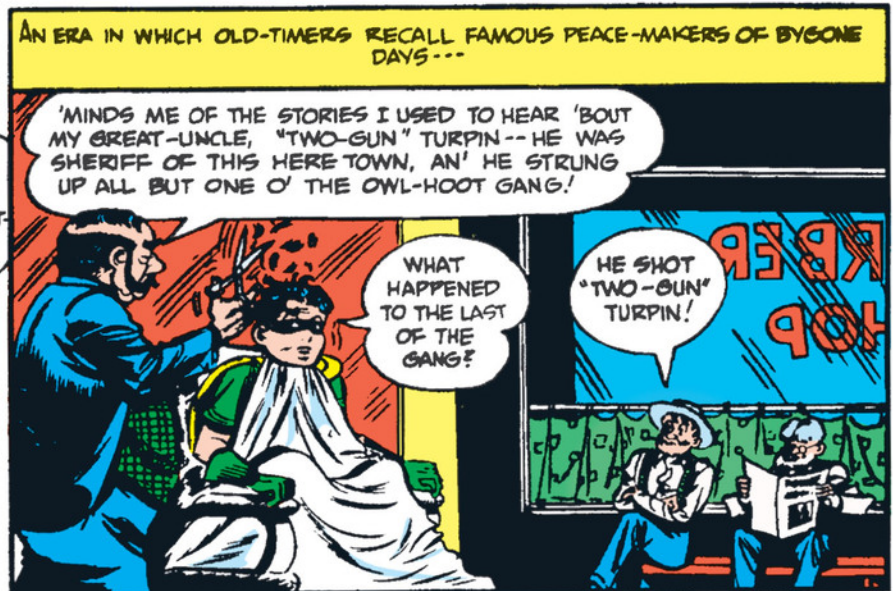
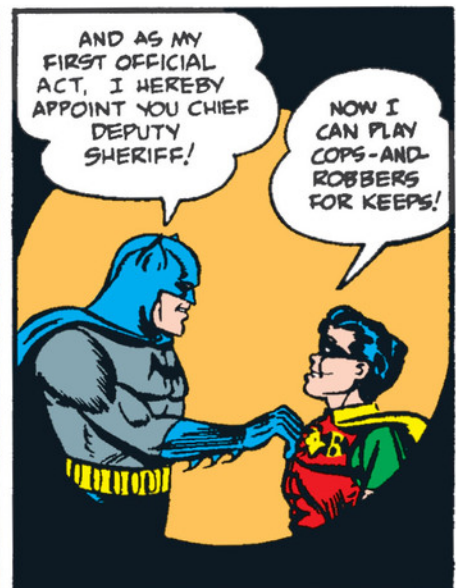


BUT UNFRIENDLY EYES WATCH THE GALA SCENE FROM THE BALCONY OF FROGEL'S LADY LUCK SALOON---



WILD EXCITEMENT MARKS THE ONE-DAY ELECTION CAMPAIGN---A FROLIC SOME RALLY SUCH AS NO GHOST TOWN HAS EVER SEEN!





FINALLY...

FELLER CITIZENS, OUR NEIGHBORIN' TOWN HAS AGREED T' LEND US MONEY FER STREETS AN' REAL ELECTRIC LIGHTS. NOW WE'LL GIT T'BE A REAL CITY. THANKS TO OUR NEW SHERIFF!

YIPPEE! PROSPERITY IS ON THE WAY!

THE TOWN BUZZES WITH PLANS OF A GRAND CELEBRATION---

CACTUS TOM IS A-GOIN' TO BRING THE MONEY FROM GILA GULCH IN A STAGECOACH!

THE WHOLE TOWN'S GONNA DRESS UP IN OLD-TIME COSTUMES!

IT'LL BE JUST LIKE FRONTIER DAYS!

WHILE IN THE HEART OF THE BADLANDS, OTHERS DISCUSS THE COMING EVENT WITH DEEP INTEREST-- KNOWN OUTLAWS, WHO FLED THE CITY WHEN THE BATMAN AND ROBIN TOOK OFFICE!

IMAGINE AN OLD GALOOT LIKE CACTUS TOM DRIVIN' THOUSANDS O' DOLLARS ACROSS THE DESERT IN A STAGECOACH!

WE DON'T HAVE TO IMAGINE IT, BLACKIE- WE'LL BE RIGHT ON HAND TO SEE IT!

AN' WITH OUR SHOOTIN' IRONS READY!

AS THE GREAT DAY DAWNS---

YOU'RE RIDING THE COACH WITH CACTUS TOM, DEPUTY! REMEMBER, THE GUNS JUST FOR SHOW! AND THE CARTRIDGES ARE BLANKS!

JUST PART OF THE MASQUERADE, EH, BATMAN...I MEAN CHIEF!

THAT MORNING'S SUN SHINES UPON SUCH A PICTURESQUE SIGHT AS THE DESERT HAS NOT SEEN IN HALF A CENTURY----

FORTY THOUSAND DOLLARS! MY BIGGEST STRIKE ---AN' ALL FER SUNSHINE CITY!

I ALWAYS WANTED TO RIDE ON ONE OF THESE!

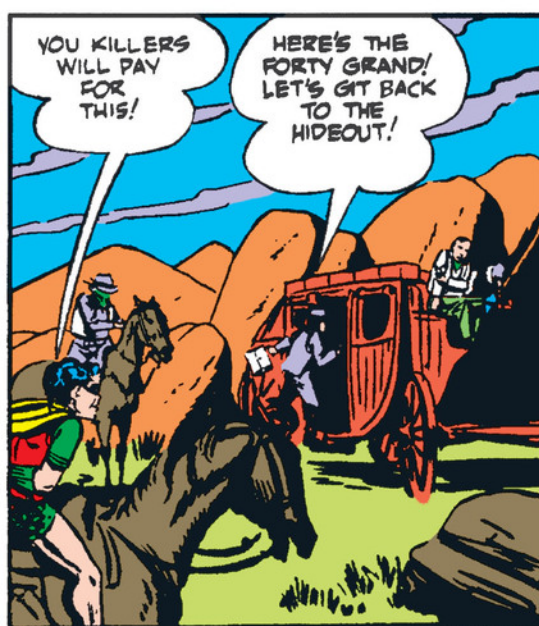
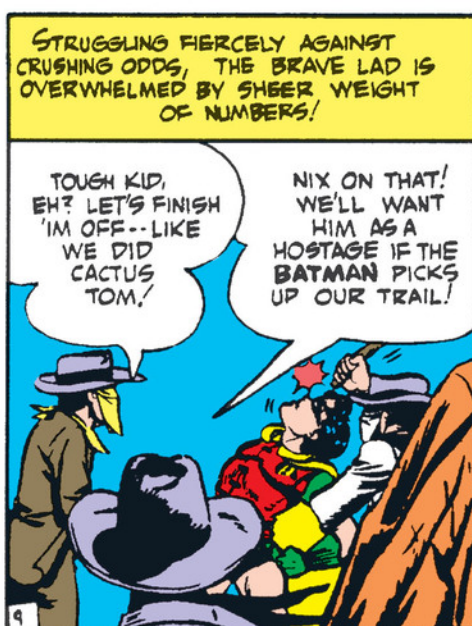
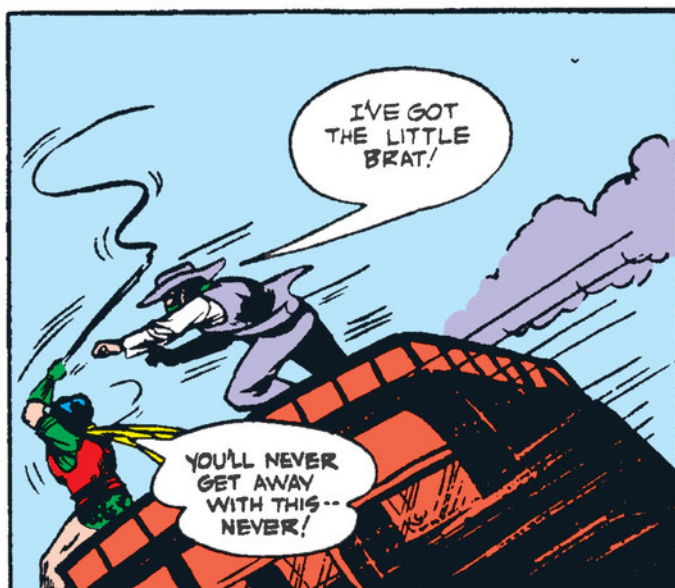
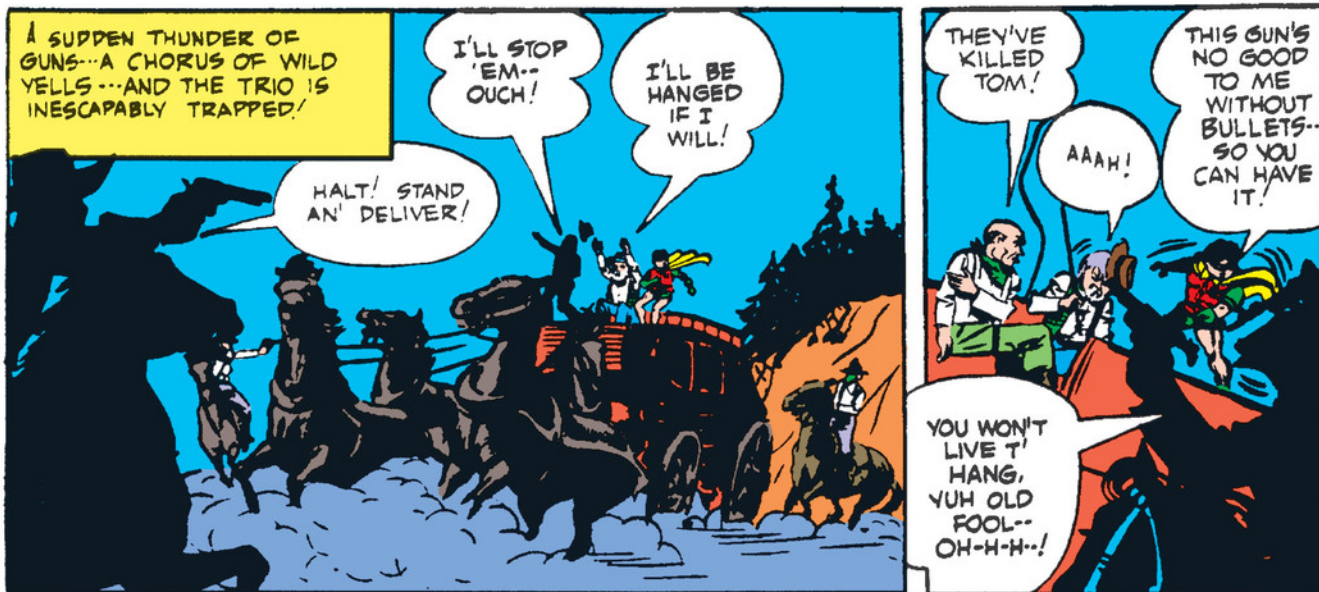
'FORE THE BATMAN CAME. WE WOULDN'T DARE CART MONEY AROUND LIKE THIS!

IT'S SAFE ENOUGH NOW, SINCE FROGEL'S PALS LIT OUT FER OTHER PARTS!

SAFE? LET'S LOOK AHEAD-- TO WHERE THE ANCIENT COACH'S PATH TWISTS BETWEEN STEEP WALLS OF ROCK!

WE'RE REALLY HELPIN' 'EM WITH THEIR SHOW-- THIS IS LIKE THE OLD DAYS, TOO!

GIT READY, BOYS! I KIN HEAR 'EM!



CAUTIOUSLY, ONE BY ONE, ROBIN WORKS THE CARTRIDGES FREE OF THE BELT LOOPS, LEAVING A SHINING TRAIL THAT PASSES UNNOTICED BY HIS CAPTORS...



WHEN WE GIT READY T'HIT THE TRAIL, KID, WE'LL STAKE YUH OUT FER THE BUZZARDS T'EAT!

MEANWHILE, BACK IN SUNSHINE CITY, THE DESCENDANTS OF GUN-FIGHTING PIONEERS HAVE DECKED THEMSELVES OUT TO RESEMBLE THEIR FAMOUS ANCESTORS...



RECKON I LOOK LIKE JEST ABOUT AS TOUGH AS MY GREAT-UNCLE, TWO-GUN* TURPIN, WHO WIPED OUT THE OWL-HOOT GANG!

YOU MEAN, ALL BUT THE ONE WHO WIPED HIM OUT!

ME, I RECKON I'D MAKE AS GOOD A PEACE OFFICER AS MY GRANDPOP "DEAD-EYE" DANVERS!

A RUMBLE OF WHEELS, A DRUMMING OF HOOFS--AND THE STAGECOACH COMES INTO VIEW, RACING AHEAD OF A CLOUD OF ALKALI DUST!



SOMETHING WRONG--ONE OF THEM LYING DOWN--AND ROBIN IS MISSING!

HERE THEY COME! LET'S GIVE OLD CACTUS TOM A SIX-GUN SALUTE!



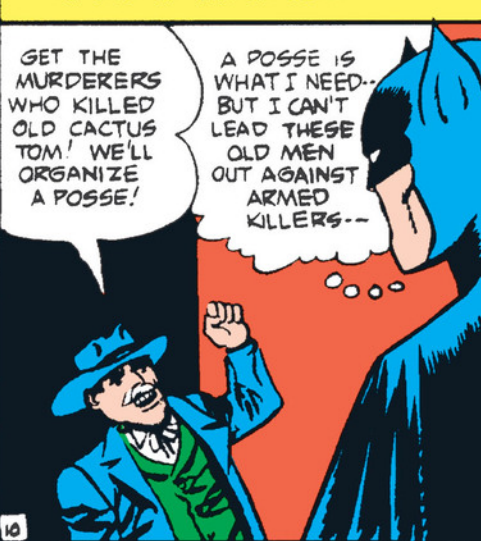
THE MERRYMAKERS FALL SILENT AS THE STUNNING NEWS OF THE TRAGEDY REACHES THEM---

BANDITS! THEY KILLED TOM--WOUNDED ME--KIDNAPPED ROBIN AN' GOT AWAY WITH THE MONEY!

WHERE DID IT HAPPEN? WHICH WAY DID THEY GO?



SWIFTLY THEIR HOLIDAY MOOD CHANGES TO ONE OF BLACK FURY---



GET THE MURDERERS WHO KILLED OLD CACTUS TOM! WE'LL ORGANIZE A POSSE!

A POSSE IS WHAT I NEED-- BUT I CAN'T LEAD THESE OLD MEN OUT AGAINST ARMED KILLERS--

I'M GOING AFTER THEM ALONE! THOSE BANDITS ARE DANGEROUS! THEY'LL BE HIDDEN IN THE HILLS, WHERE THEY'LL BE HARD TO GET AT! YOU'VE ELECTED ME SHERIFF, AND IT'S MY JOB!

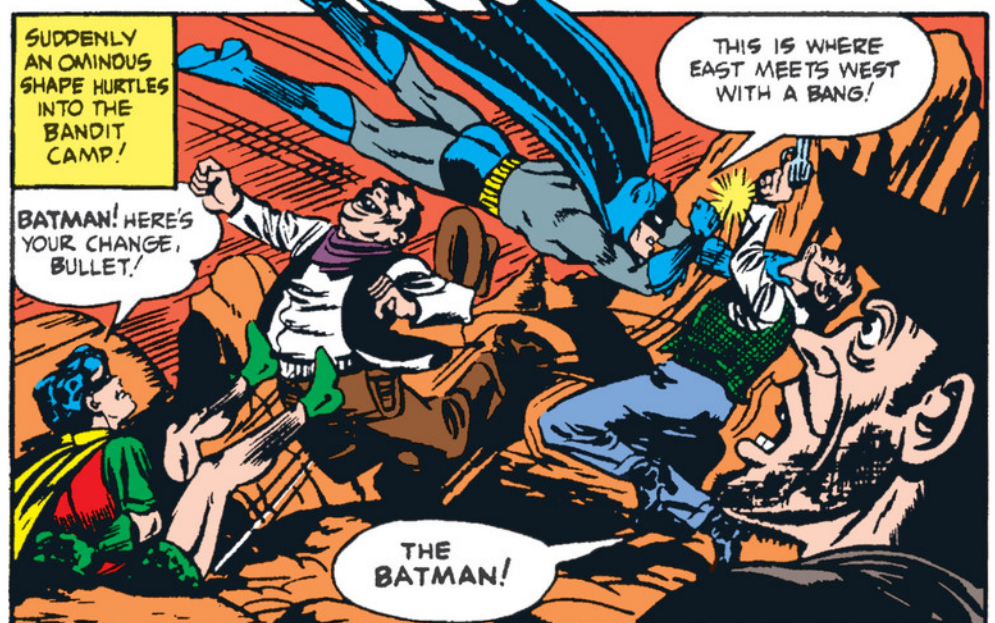
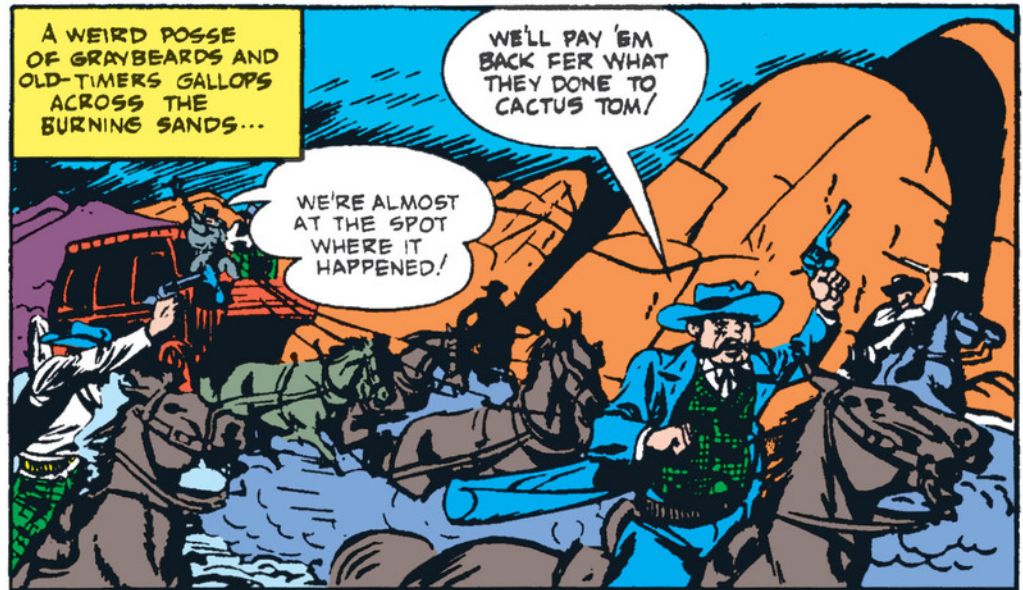


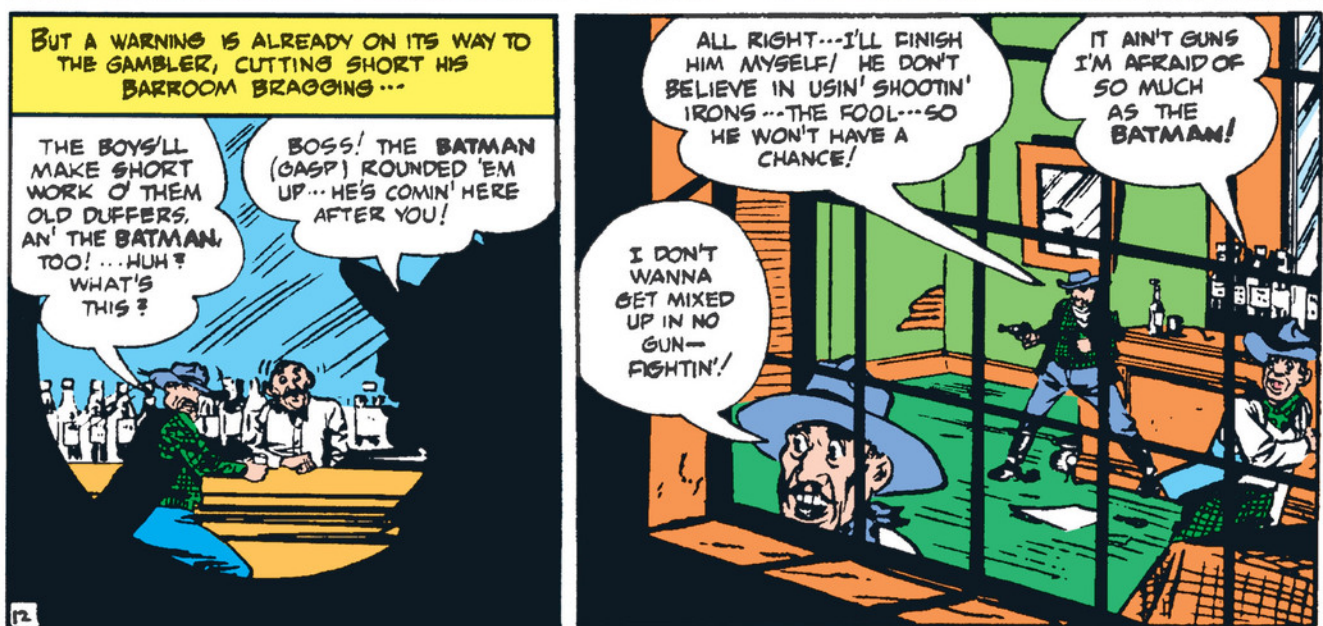
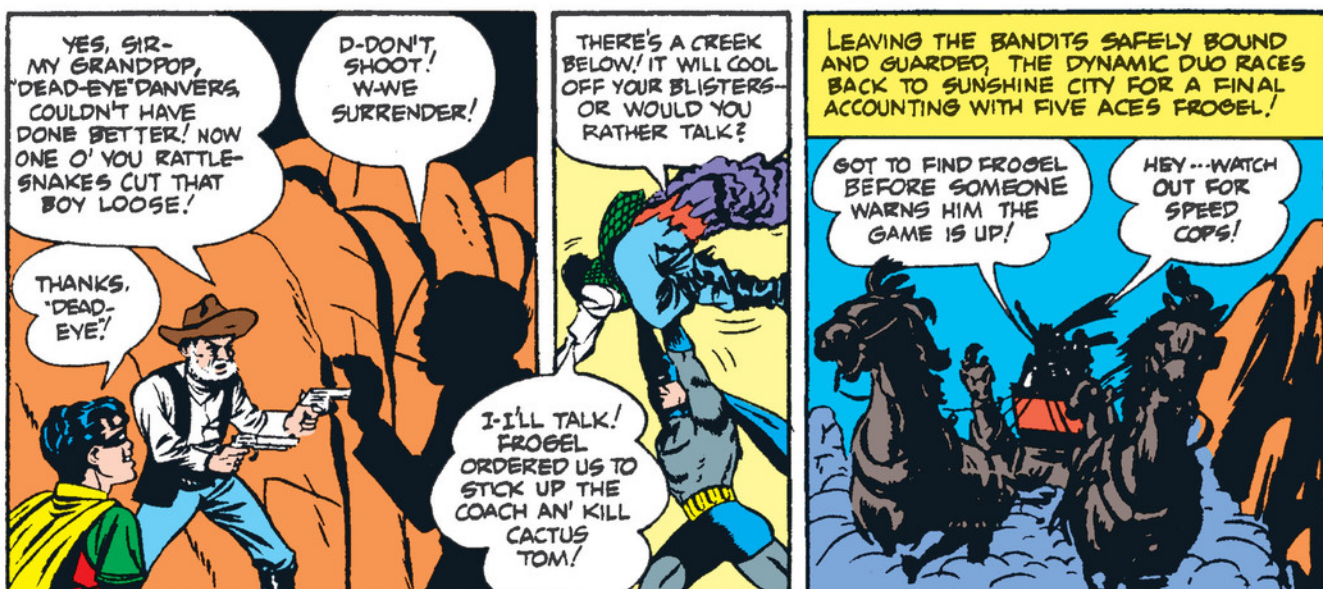
BUT A MIRACLE SEEMS TO HAVE TRANSFORMED THE OLD-TIMERS--AS IF THE SPIRIT OF THEIR FIGHTING ANCESTORS HAS COME TO LIFE WITHIN THEM.

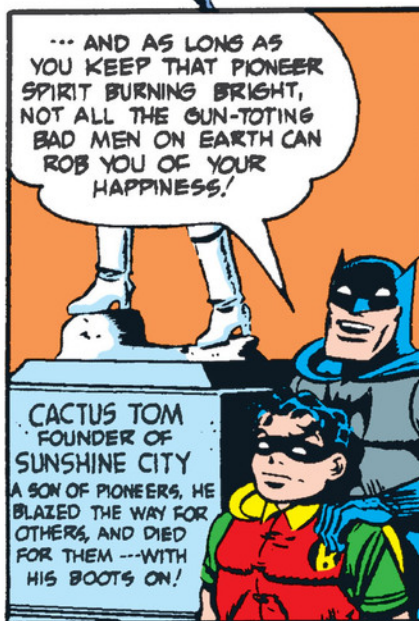
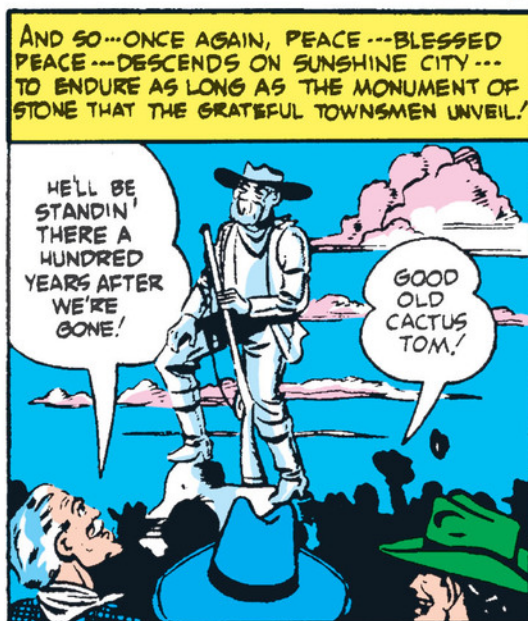
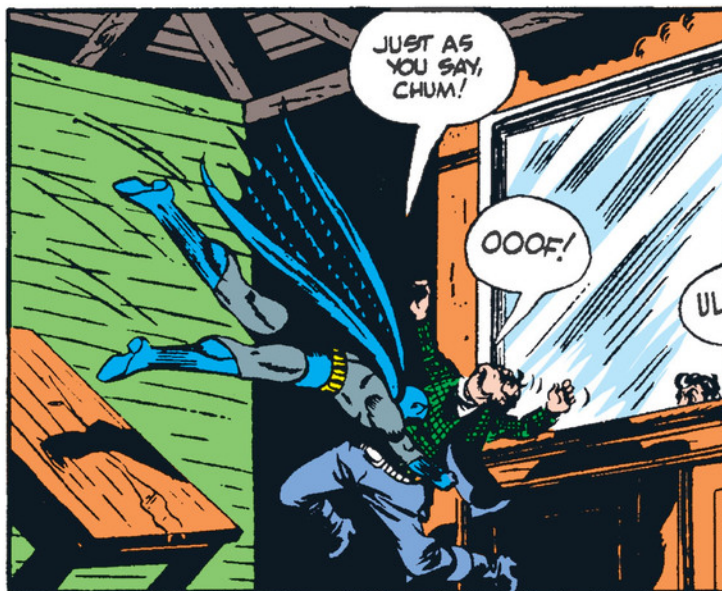
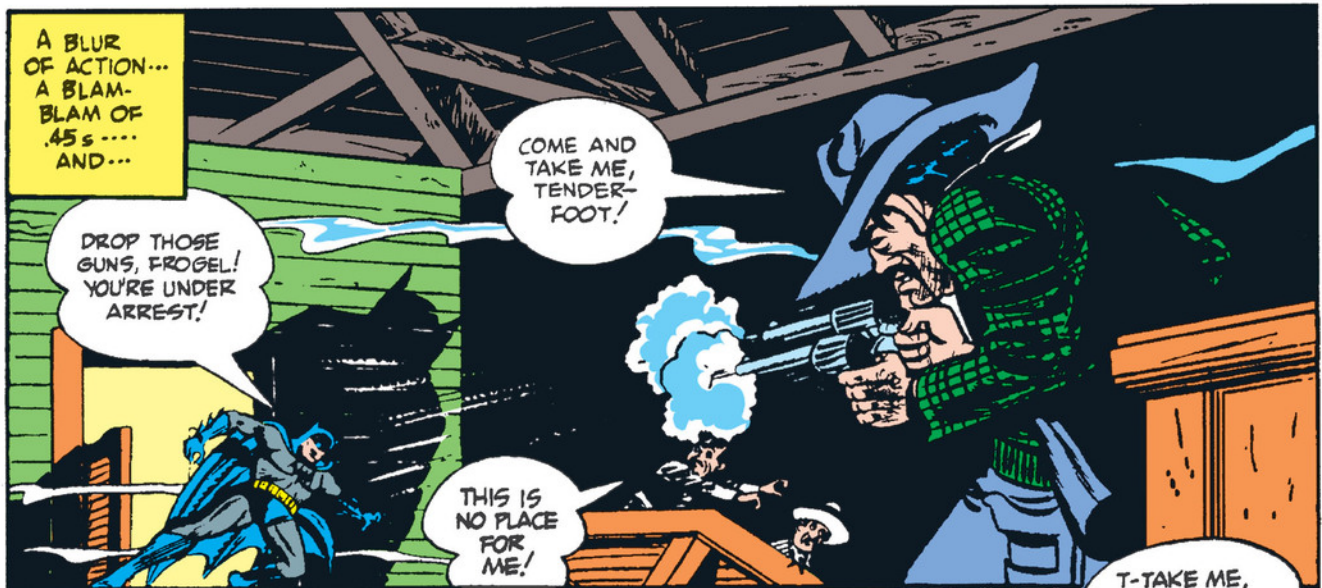


I'M A-WEARIN' "TWO-GUN" TURPIN'S BOOTS--AND THEY'RE A-GOIN' T' TAKE ME AFTER THEM VARMINTS, SHERIFF!

THERE'S A GOOD FIGHT LEFT IN ME, TOO! DON'T FERGIT, "DEAD-EYE" DANVERS WAS MY GRANDPOP!









The **BATMAN**

No. 63 **MEET MR. BAFFLE!**



Detective

REG. U. S. PAT. OFF.

MAY

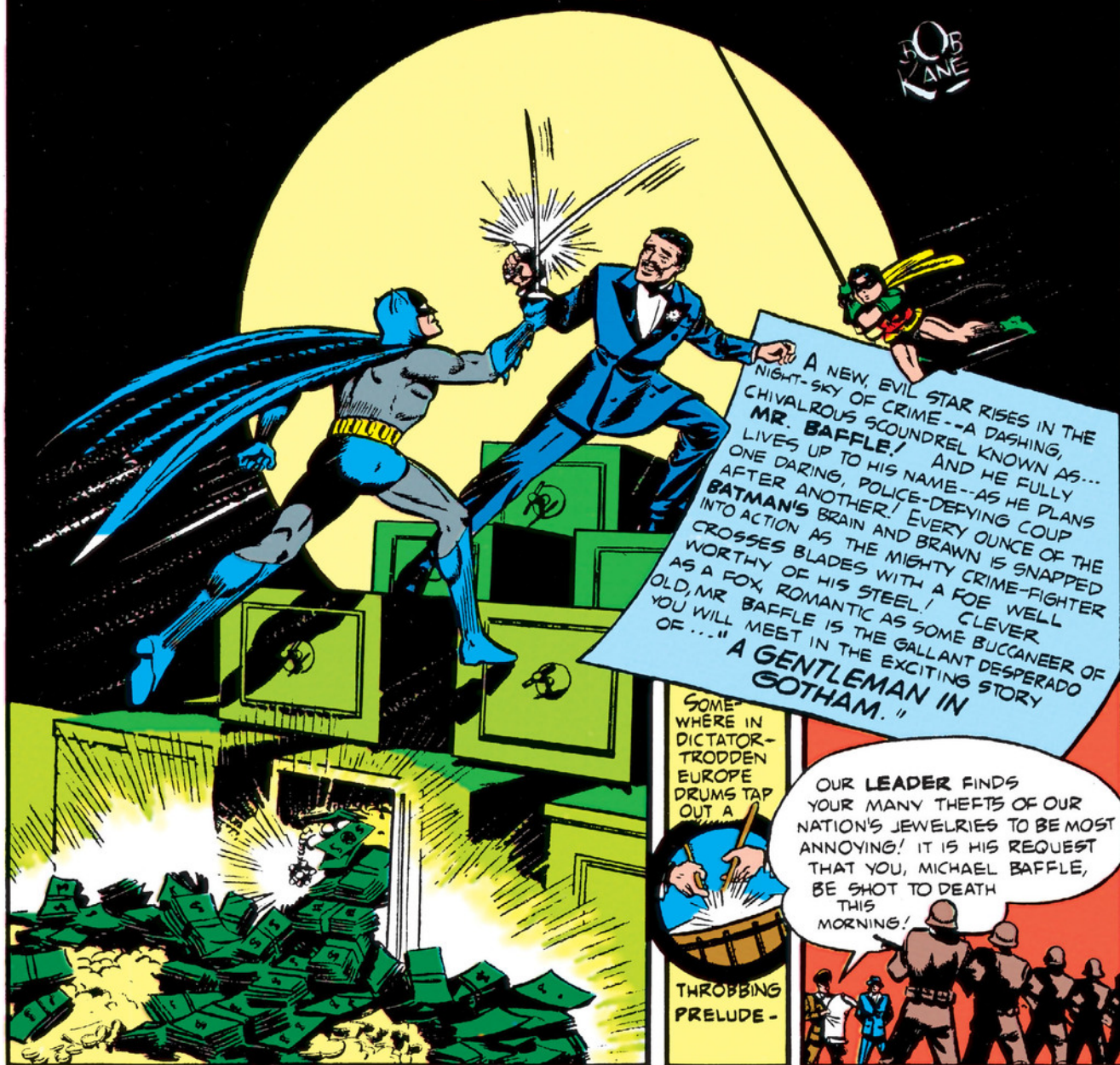
COMICS

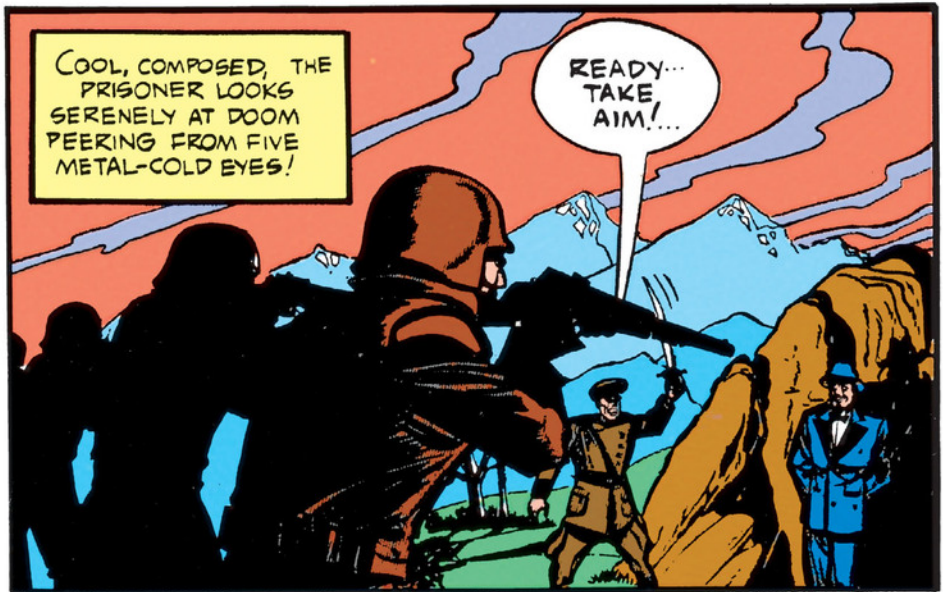


BATMAN

WITH
ROBIN
- THE BOY WONDER -

JOE
KANE





THE COMMANDER SNAPS DOWN
HIS SWORD. THE MEN FIRE---
THE PRISONER CLUTCHES HIS
BREAST AND BEGINS TO CRUMPLE.

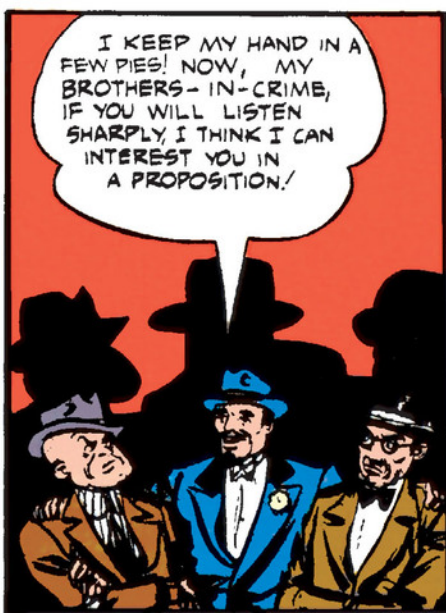
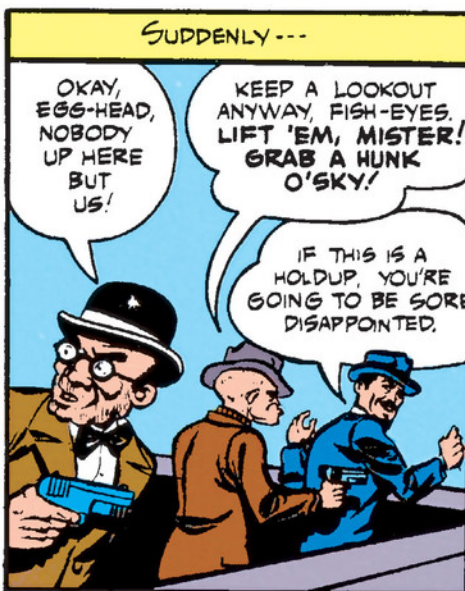
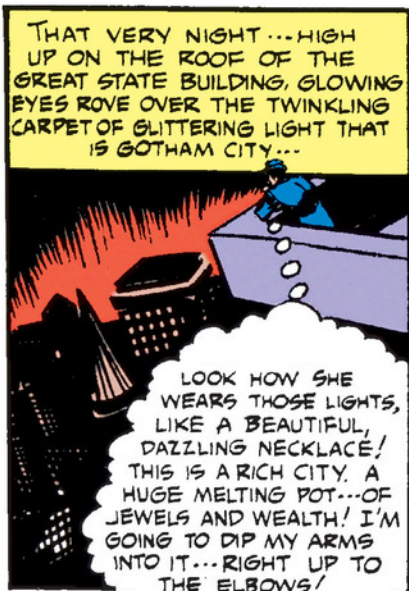


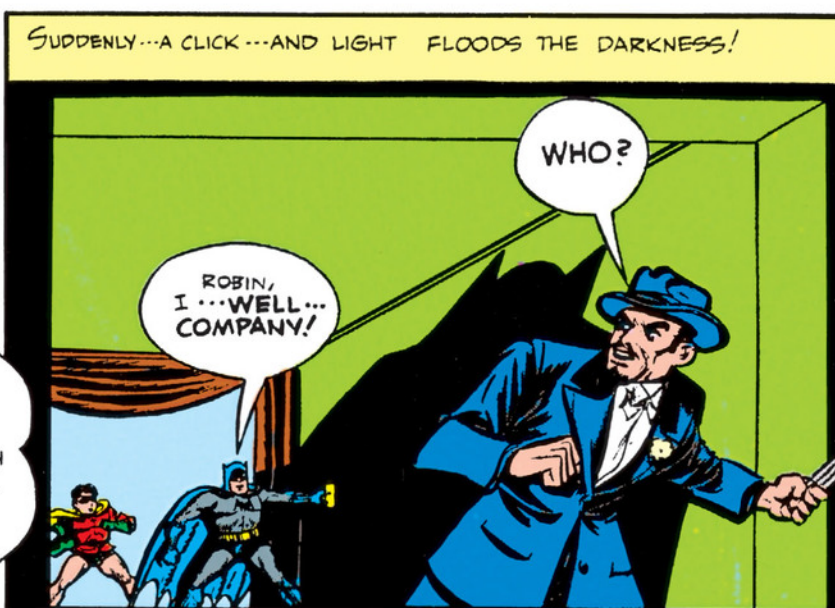
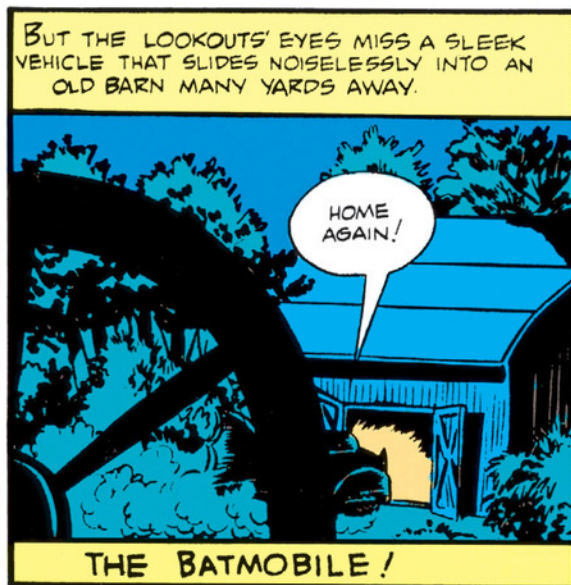
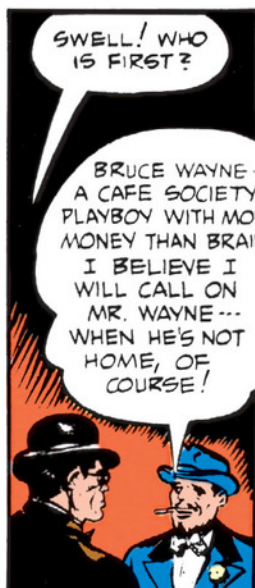
SILENCE NOW---AND ON THE COLD GROUND IS
SPRAWLED A STILL FIGURE SEEMINGLY
SMOTHERED IN ETERNAL SLEEP!



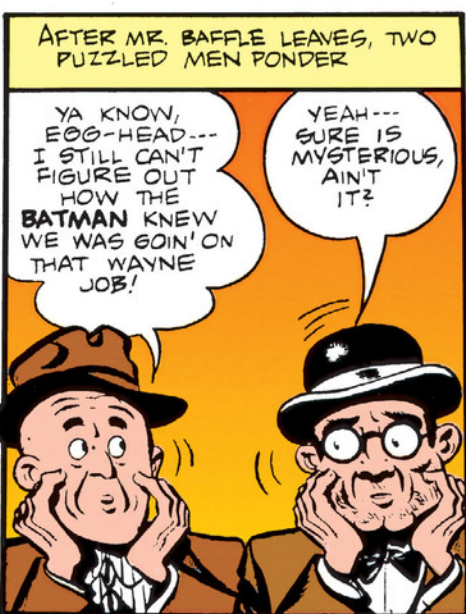
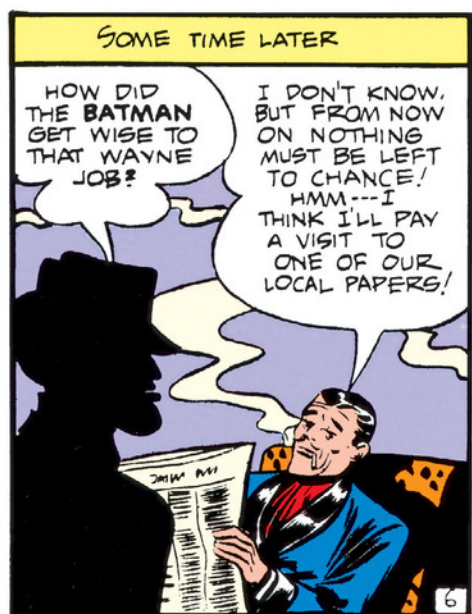
A MINUTE CRAWLS BY...
TWO MINUTES---AND
THEN---











AT A LOCAL NEWSPAPER, MR. BAFFLE TALKS FAST AND CONVINCINGLY TO THE EDITOR...

SO YOU THINK YOU CAN DO A GOOD JOB WRITING OUR SOCIETY PAGE, EH?

I KNOW SOCIETY PEOPLE! I---ER---HAVE BEEN IN THEIR HOMES MANY TIMES! I CAN HANDLE THEM!

MR. BAFFLE'S GRACIOUS AIRS HELP HIM BECOME A SUCCESSFUL SOCIETY REPORTER--

YOU CAN BE SURE I WILL DESCRIBE ALL THIS TO MY READERS-- THE VERY LOVELY HOME OF A VERY LOVELY LADY!

OH-H-H-- FLATTERER!

HIS COLUMN BECOMES THE DAILY HABIT OF THE READING PUBLIC.

Society
by Charles Courtly

YOUR SOCIETY RAMBLER SPENT A FULL DAY AT THE CHARMING HOME OF THE ALBERT DE FESTER'S YESTERDAY--

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VD. 10001. VE. 10001. VF. 10001
VG. 10001. VH. 10001. VI. 10001
VJ. 10001. VK. 10001. VL. 10001
VM. 10001. VN. 10001. VO. 10001
VP. 10001. VQ. 10001. VR. 10001
VS. 10001. VT. 10001. VU. 10001
VV. 10001. VW. 10001. VX. 10001
VY. 10001. VZ. 10001. WA. 10001
WB. 10001. WC. 10001. WD. 10001
WE. 10001. WF. 10001. WG. 10001
WH. 10001. WI. 10001. WJ. 10001
WK. 10001. WL. 10001. WM. 10001
WN. 10001. WO. 10001. WP. 10001
WQ. 10001. WR. 10001. WS. 10001
WT. 10001. WY. 10001. WZ. 10001
XA. 10001. XB. 10001. XC. 10001
XD. 10001. XE. 10001. XF. 10001
XG. 10001. XH. 10001. XI. 10001
XJ. 10001. XK. 10001. XL. 10001
XM. 10001. XN. 10001. XO. 10001
XP. 10001. XQ. 10001. XR. 10001
XS. 10001. XT. 10001. XU. 10001
XV. 10001. XW. 10001. XX. 10001
XY. 10001. XZ. 10001. YA. 10001
YB. 10001. YC. 10001. YD. 10001
YE. 10001. YF. 10001. YG. 10001
YH. 10001. YI. 10001. YJ. 10001
YK. 10001. YL. 10001. YM. 10001
YN. 10001. YO. 10001. YP. 10001
YQ. 10001. YR. 10001. YS. 10001
YT. 10001. YU. 10001. YV. 10001
YW. 10001. YX. 10001. YZ. 10001
ZA. 10001. ZB. 10001. ZC. 10001
ZD. 10001. ZE. 10001. ZF. 10001
ZG. 10001. ZH. 10001. ZI. 10001
ZJ. 10001. ZK. 10001. ZL. 10001
ZM. 10001. ZN. 10001. ZO. 10001
ZP. 10001. ZQ. 10001. ZR. 10001
ZS. 10001. ZT. 10001. ZU. 10001
ZV. 10001. ZW. 10001. ZX. 10001
ZY. 10001. ZZ. 10001.

SIMULTANEOUSLY, A SERIES OF SPECTACULAR ROBBERIES BREAKS OUT AMONG THE SOCIETY RICH!

MY SAFE OPENED--MY TREASURES GONE--OH, I'M GOING TO FAINT!

A CLEAN JOB! NOT A CLUE--NOTHING! IT'S AS IF THEY KNEW THE PLACE FROM TOP TO BOTTOM!

AND NEVER A TRUER WORD WAS SPOKEN!

YESSIR, GETTING THE LAYOUT OF THE RICH DUMPS LIKE YOU DONE IS CERTAINLY ONE OKAY STUNT!

IF THEY ONLY KNEW YOU HAD A CANDID CAMERA HID BEHIND THAT FLOWER OF YOURS---

THERE'S NO DOUBT MY COLUMN GAINS ME ENTRANCE TO MANY RICH HOMES! NOW LET US DISCUSS TONIGHT'S WORK---

THAT NIGHT--THE GAY PARTY OF ONE OF SOCIETY'S MOST LAVISH PARTY-GIVERS---

OH, MR. COURTLY, I'M SO GLAD YOU COULD COME!

MADAM, HOW COULD I STAY AWAY!

HOW COULD I INDEED, WITH ALL THESE JEWELS ABOUT!

MY GUESTS, MISS LINDA PAGE AND BRUCE WAYNE!

I'M DISAPPOINTED IN YOU, MR. COURTLY. YOU'VE BEEN TO EVERYONE'S HOME BUT MINE!

AH, BUT YOU'RE WRONG--ER, I MEAN--- I SHALL VISIT WITH YOU SOON!

CLOSE! ALMOST MADE A SLIP THAT TIME!

ODD! I COULD SWEAR I'VE SEEN THAT FELLOW BEFORE---

MRS. DAVIES, WHY DON'T YOU HAVE A SWIMMING MEET FOR YOUR GUESTS? MY PAPER'S PHOTOGRAPHERS COULD TAKE PICTURES OF IT! GOOD PUBLICITY, Y'KNOW!

A SPLENDID IDEA, MR. COURTLY! ALL MY FRIENDS WILL BE SO ENVOUS OF ME!

THE IDEA MEETS WITH THE COMPLETE APPROVAL OF THE GUESTS!

LEAD US TO THOSE BATHING SUITS!

BUT WHERE WILL WE PUT OUR VALUABLES?

IN MY SAFE, OF COURSE, I'LL HAVE TWO BUTLERS STAND GUARD IN CASE THAT SOCIETY BURGLAR SHOULD TAKE IT IN HIS HEAD TO APPEAR!

AND SO... SOME TIME LATER...

DEAR LADY, I REALLY MUST GO NOW IF I EXPECT TO WRITE THIS STORY UP FOR THE MORNING EDITION!

BE SURE TO GIVE MY PARTY PLENTY OF PUBLICITY!

WELL, MY "PHOTOGRAPHERS," IT DOESN'T LOOK AS IF WE'LL RUN INTO ANY TROUBLE! LET'S GO!

MEANWHILE, BRUCE QUITS THE MERRYMAKING...

YOU FEEL UNEASY ABOUT ALL THOSE JEWELS IN THAT SAFE?

IT'S TOO PERFECT A SET-UP FOR THAT SOCIETY BURGLAR TO RESIST! SO-O-Q SHOULD HE BE TEMPTED, WE'LL BE AROUND TO STOP HIM!

THE BATMAN'S PREMONITION PROVES CORRECT, FOR AS THE DYNAMIC DUO STEALS TO THE LIBRARY...

WELL--IT SEEMS I CALLED MY SHOT THIS TIME!

WHO...? THE BATMAN, AGAIN? THIS IS GETTING TO BE A HABIT!

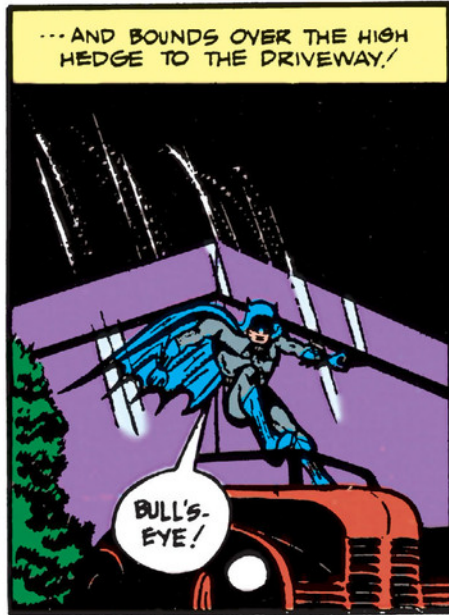
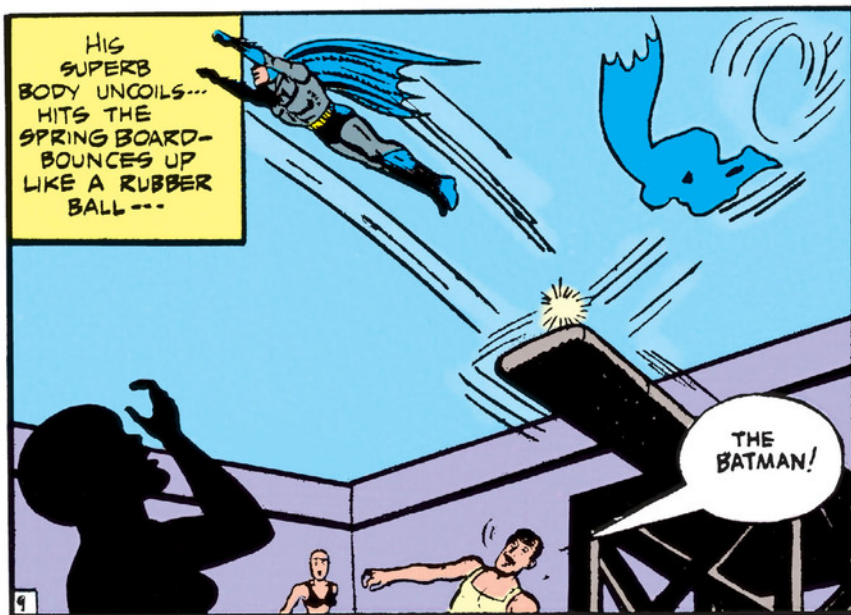
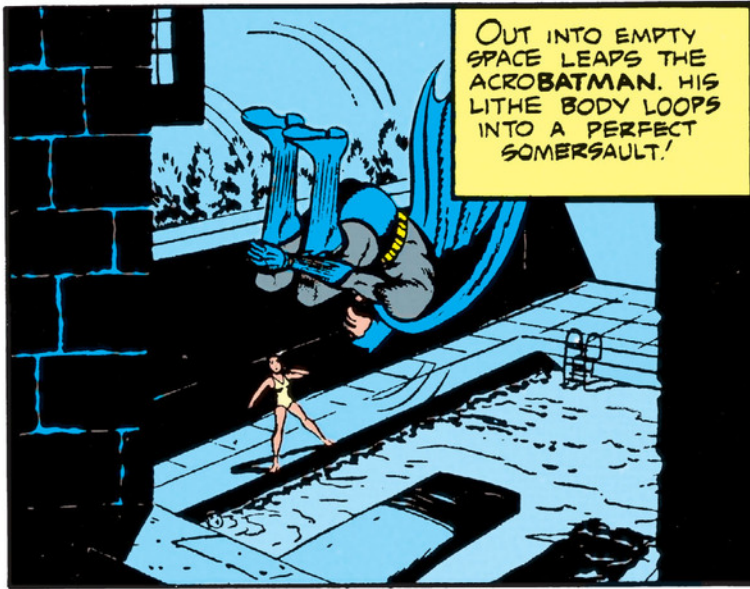
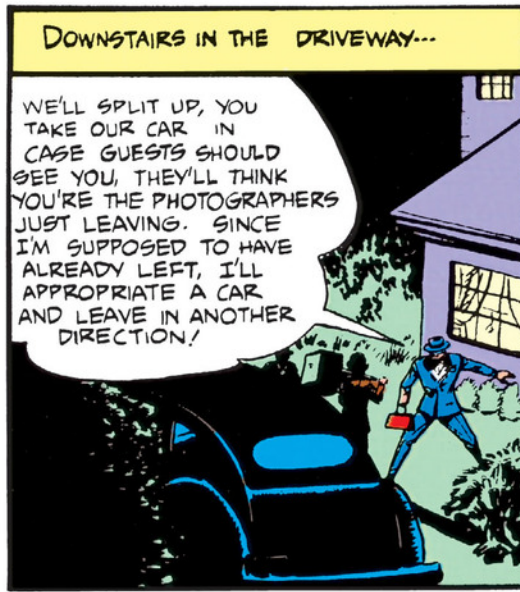
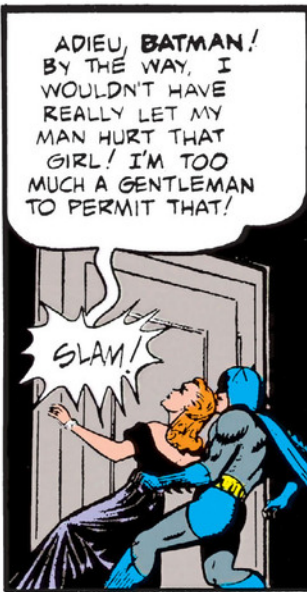
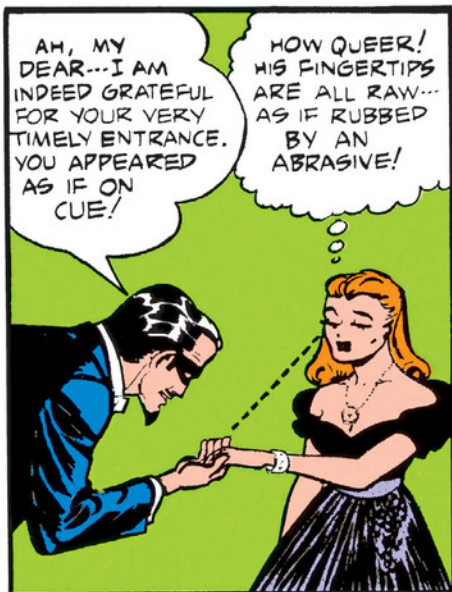
LET'S TAKE 'EM, ROBIN!

THIS IS GOING TO BE EASY!

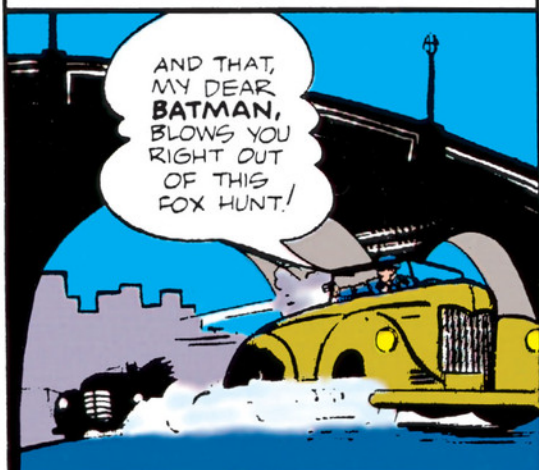
RELAX, BATMAN! ONE MOVE AND I BLOW DAYLIGHT THROUGH THE DAME!

CHECKMATED, BATMAN! IT'S MY MOVE NOW!

HEARD A NOISE-- I... BATMAN!



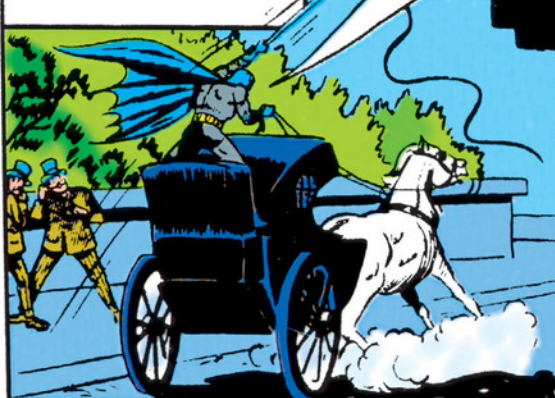
OUT ON THE PARK HIGHWAY THE CHASE BEGINS-AND ENDS, AS MR. BAFFLE'S BARKING REVOLVER SCORES A DIRECT HIT ON A FRONT TIRE ---



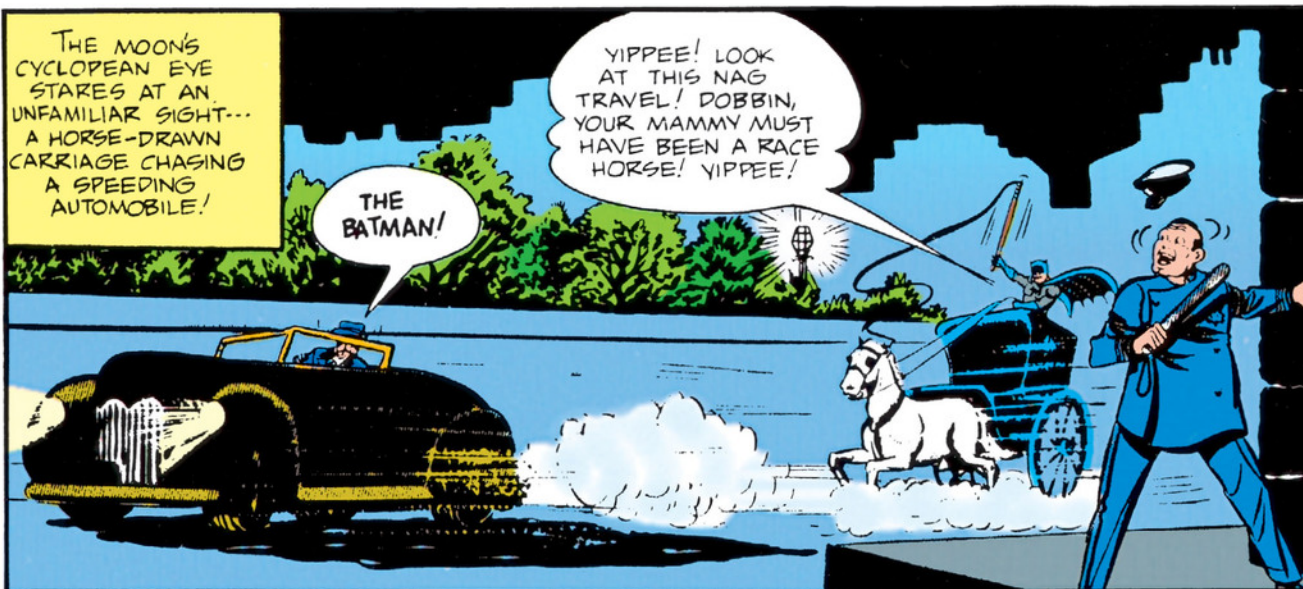
CAN'T USE THAT CAR! I---WAIT! THIS RACE ISN'T OVER YET!



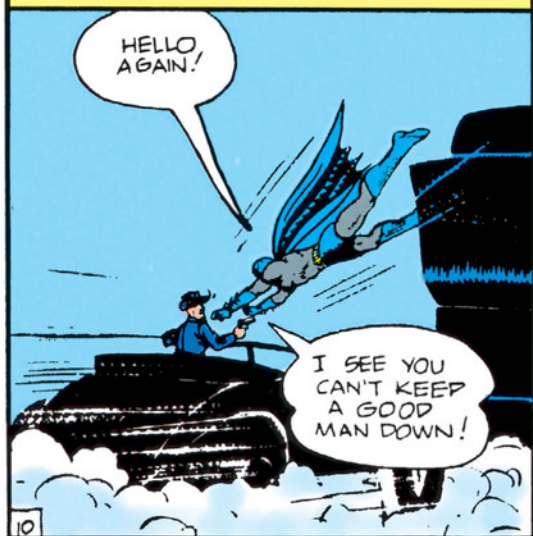
INTO A HANSOM CAB SPRINGS THE **BATMAN**. THE CRACK OF A WHIP, AND THE HORSE BOLTS FORWARD IN SHOCKED SURPRISE!



THE MOON'S CYCLOPEAN EYE STARES AT AN UNFAMILIAR SIGHT--- A HORSE-DRAWN CARRIAGE CHASING A SPEEDING AUTOMOBILE!



A LITHE LEAP!

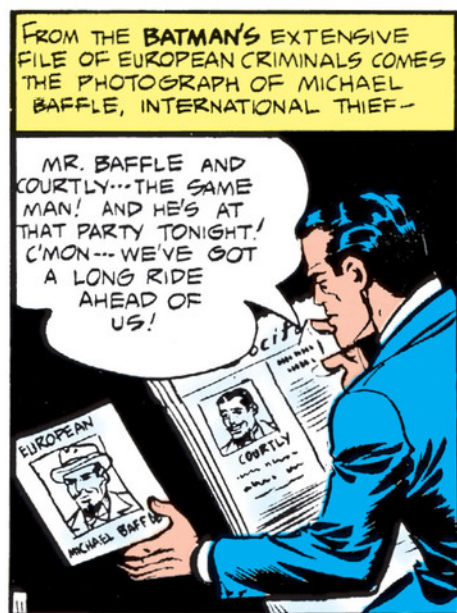
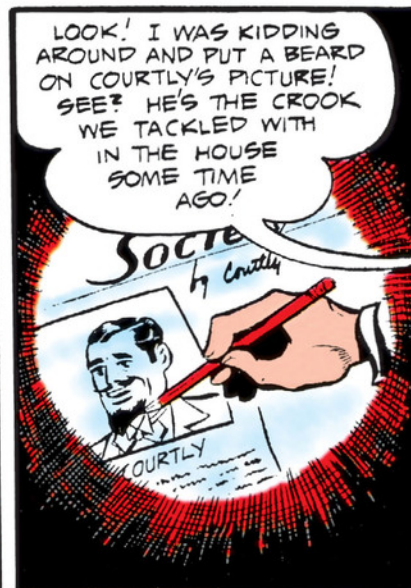
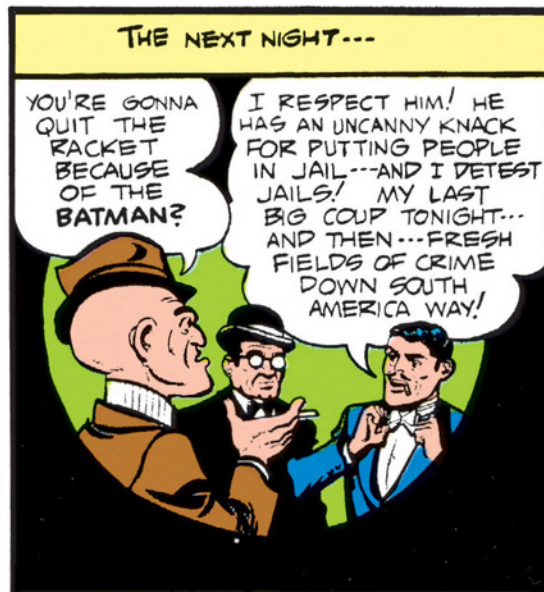
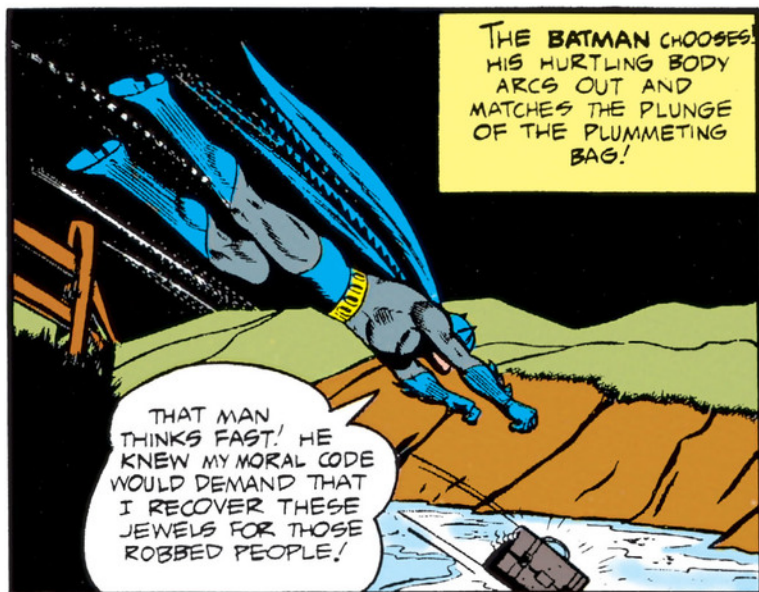


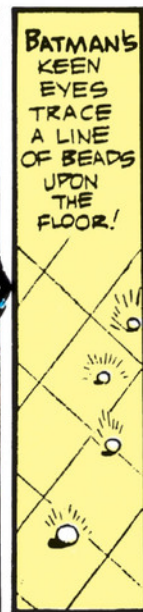
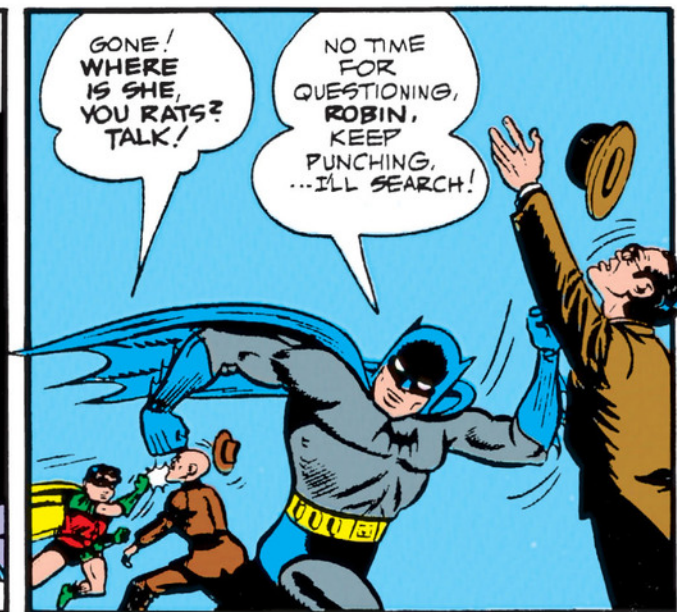
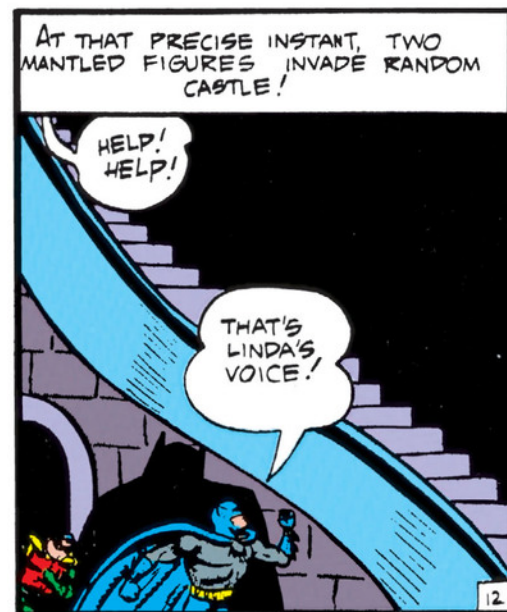
IN THE ROCKETING, CAREENING CAR, CRIMINAL AND RACKET-WRECKER COME TO GRIPS!



SUDDENLY TWISTING FREE, MR BAFFLE HURLS THE BAG OF LOOT FROM HIM!









IRONICALLY, BATMAN SLIPS... ON THE VERY BEADS THAT SERVED IN HIS FAVOR BEFORE!





No. 64

NEW FEATURE
THE BOY
COMMANDOS



Detective

REG. U. S. PAT. OFF.

JUNE

COMICS



BATMAN

WITH

ROBIN

-THE BOY WONDER-

BOB
KANE

~OBITUARY~
LAST NIGHT AT 12:05 A.M.
A MASTER-CRIMINAL WAS LED TO
THE ELECTRIC CHAIR WHERE HE PAID
THE SUPREME PENALTY FOR HIS
CRIMES. AFTER YEARS OF DARING
EXPLOITS WHICH ONLY THE **BATMAN**
AND ROBIN COULD HOLD IN
CHECK, THE CAREER OF THE KING
OF CRIME IS ENDED. **THE
JOKER IS DEAD!**

FOR ANY OTHER MAN, THIS
OBITUARY WOULD SPELL THE FINISH
OF HIS STORY... BUT FOR THE MASTER
OF MOCKERY IT IS ONLY THE
BEGINNING OF A WEIRD ADVENTURE
WHEN... "THE JOKER WALKS THE LAST MILE!"

CONFESS!



CONFESS!

CONFESS! CONFESS!

CONFESS!



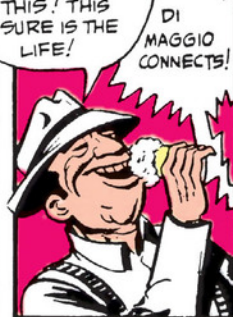
IN THE GRIM LAIR OF THE JOKER,
THE MASTER OF MOCKERY MOODILY
LURKS WITH HIS HENCHMEN!

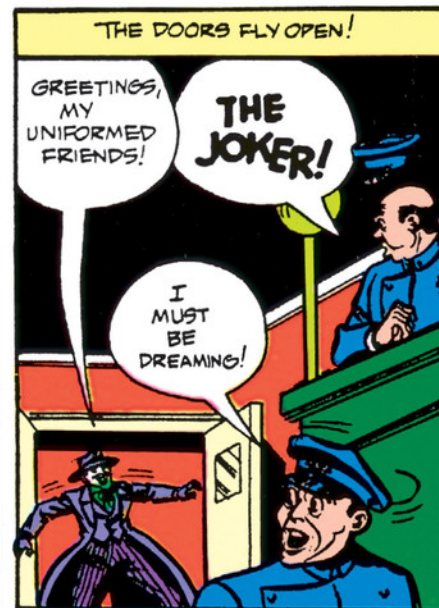
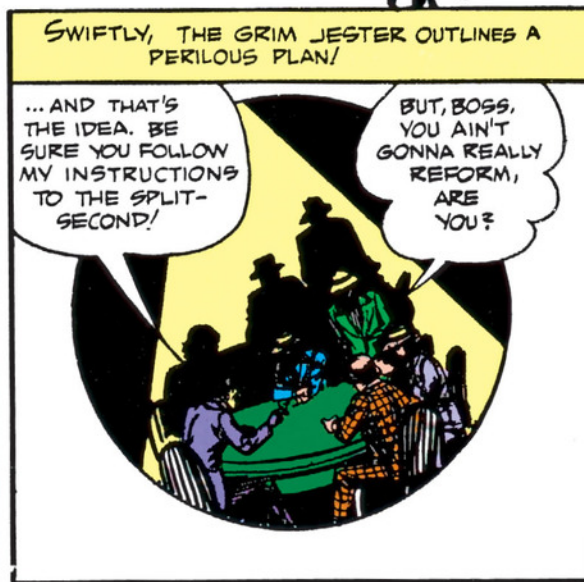
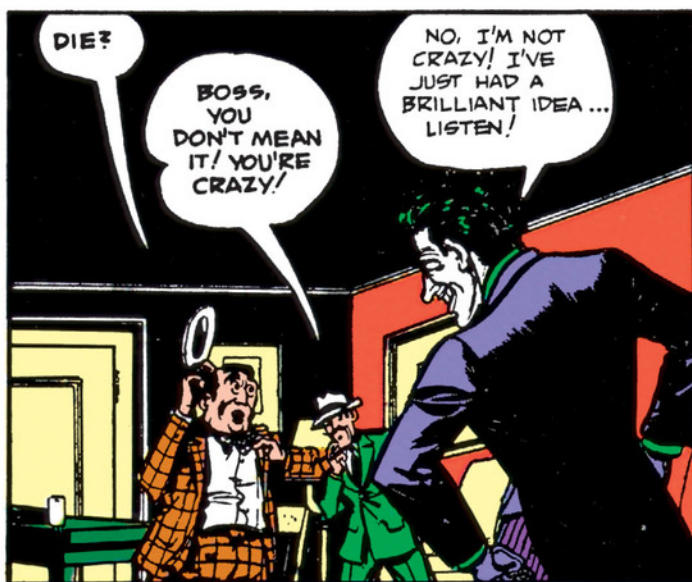
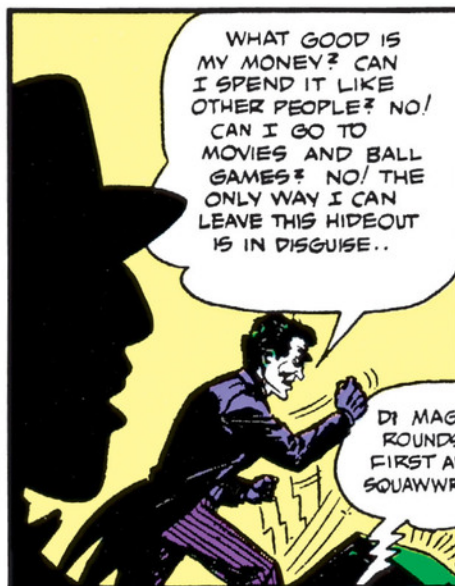
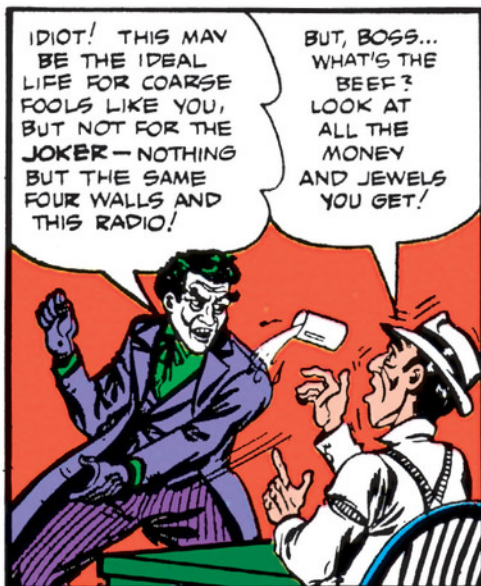
...LAST HALF OF
THE FOURTH
INNING. DIMAGGIO
AT BAT...THE
COUNT IS THREE
AND TWO...

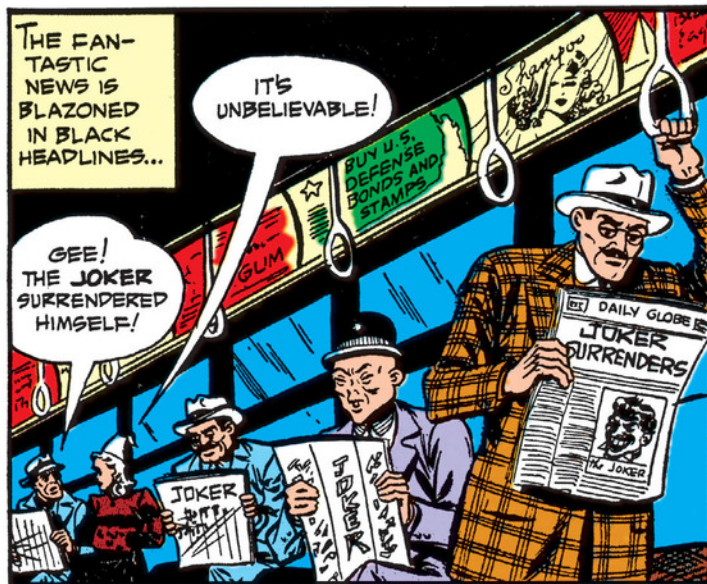
GEE, WHAT
A GAME!

BOY, I
COULD
SPEND THE
REST O' MY
DAY LIKE
THIS! THIS
SURE IS THE
LIFE!

DI
MAGGIO
CONNECTS!





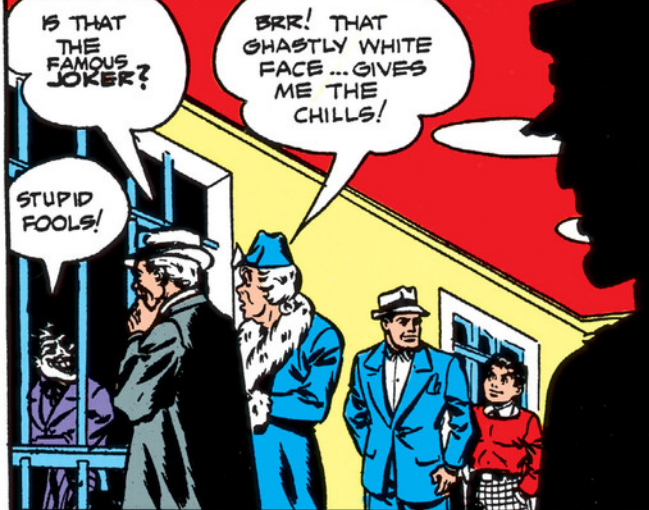


AND BROADCAST TO THE CORNERS OF THE WORLD!

WE INTERRUPT THIS BROADCAST OF THE TRUE ADVENTURES OF BATMAN TO BRING YOU A SPECIAL BULLETIN. THE JOKER HAS BEEN CAPTURED!



WHILE PAST THE PRISONER'S CELL PASS THOUSANDS EACH DAY...



THAT'S THE JOKER, ALL RIGHT! BRUCE-TO THINK THAT HE DELIBERATELY GAVE HIMSELF UP!

IT'S AMAZING, ROBIN! I CAN'T BELIEVE IT! THERE MUST BE A CATCH SOMEWHERE!



STEP ASIDE, FOLKS! VISITIN' HOURS ARE OVER!

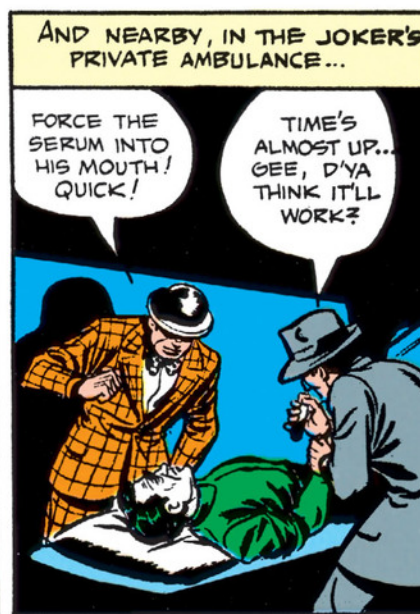
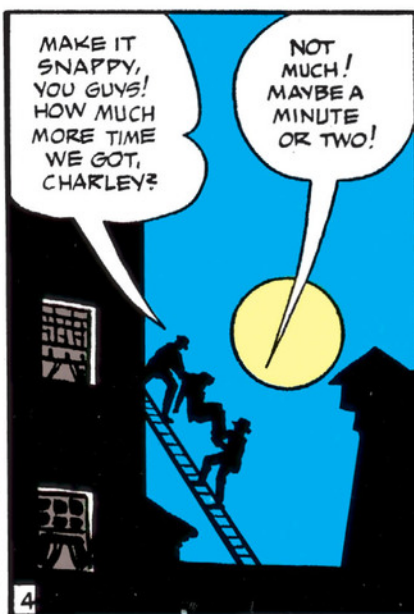
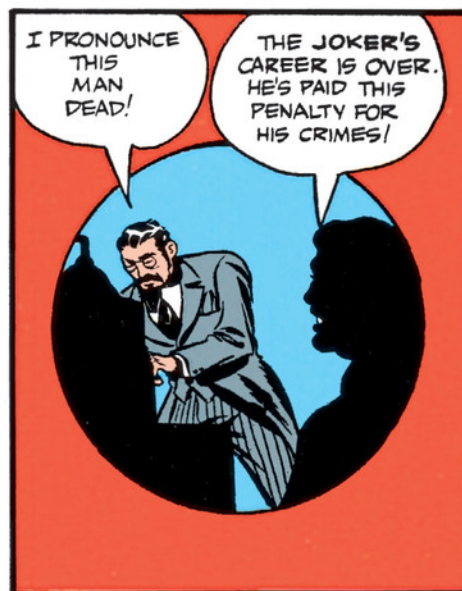
YEP! IT'S TIME FOR THE JOKER'S CONFESSION SESSION! COME ON, JOKER!

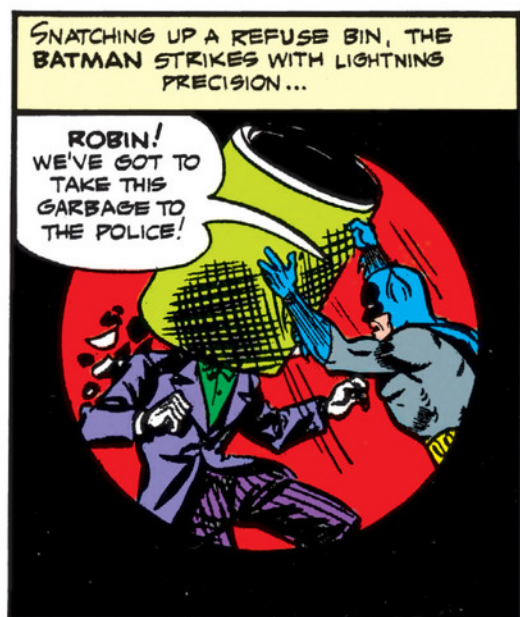
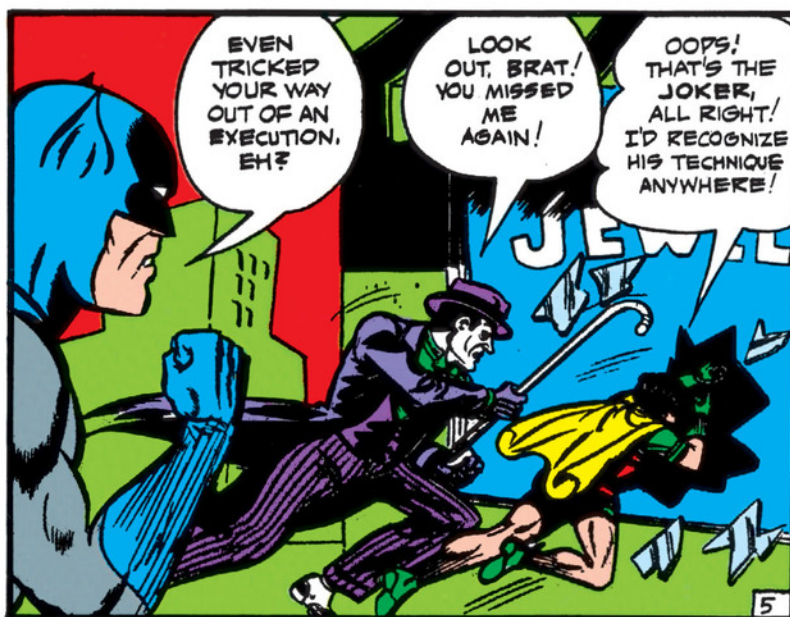
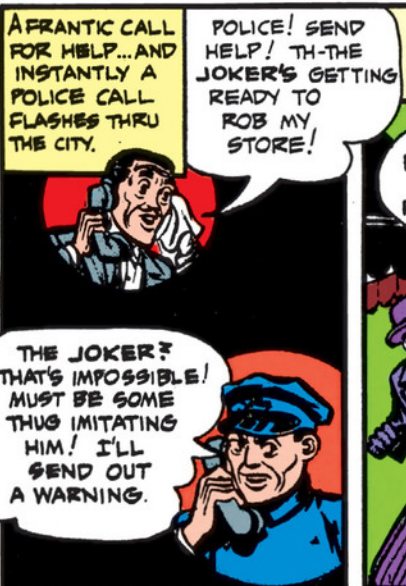


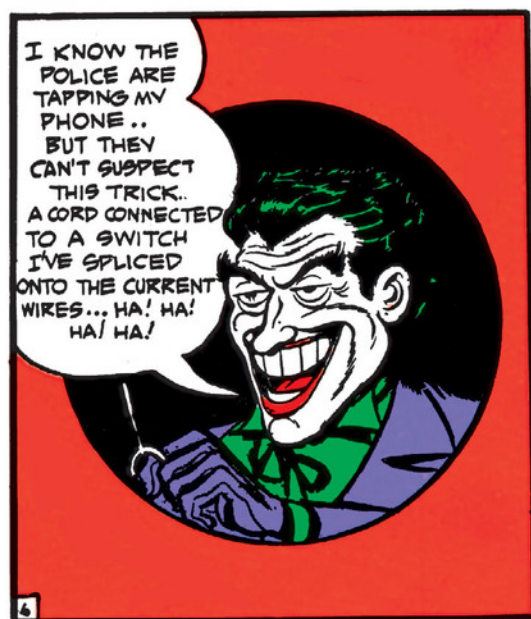
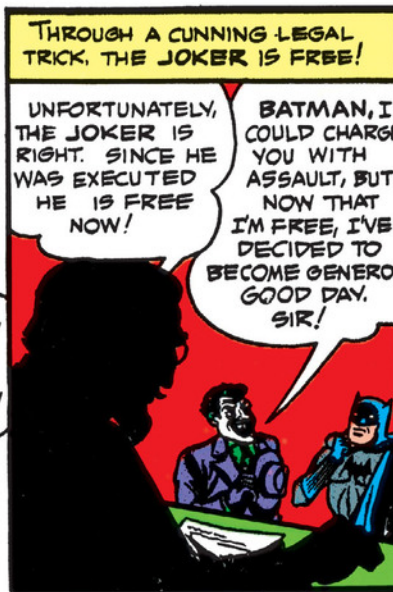
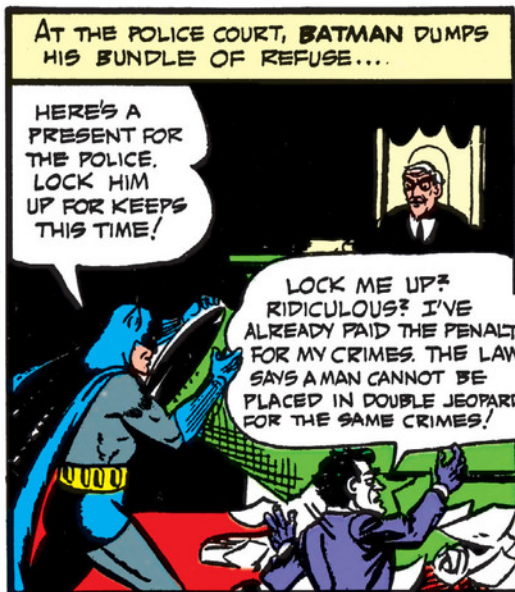
... AND DAILY, THE JOKER REELS OFF THE SEEMINGLY NEVER-ENDING LIST OF HIS INCREDIBLE CRIMES...

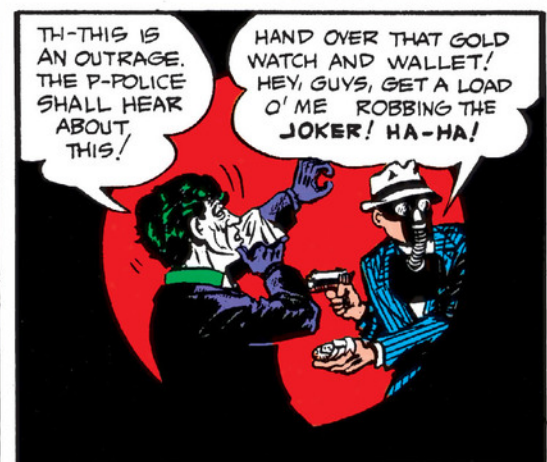
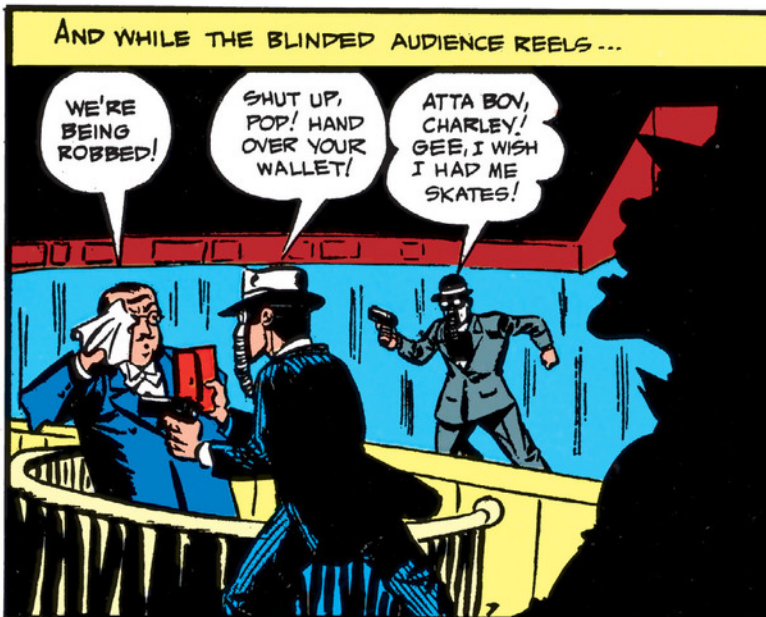
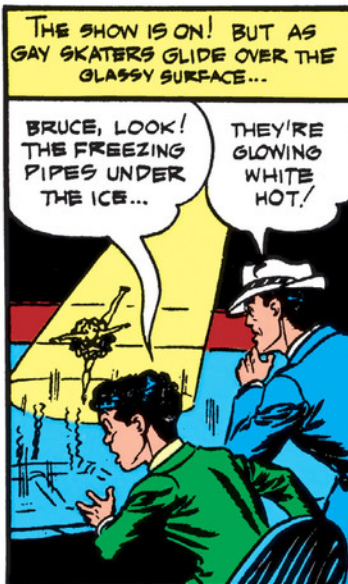
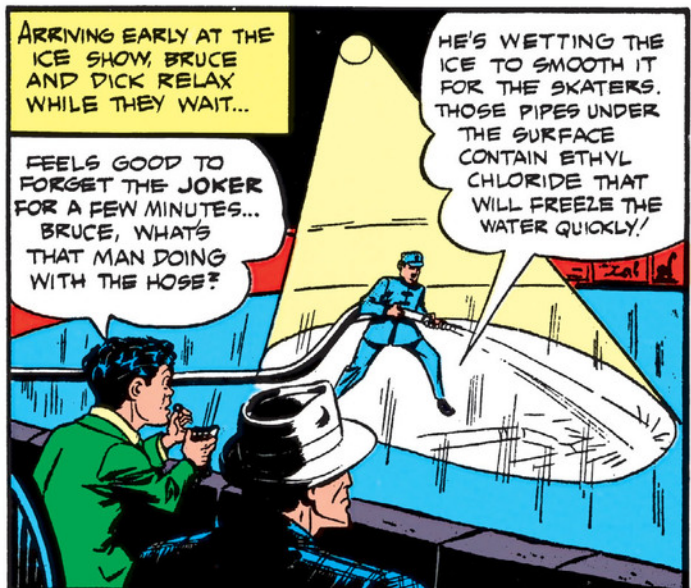
NOW LET ME SEE, WHERE WERE WE? AH, YES, AT THE CLOSE OF THE "CASE OF THE LUCKY-LAW BREAKERS". I ROBBED THE NATIONAL BANK OF DENVER/...

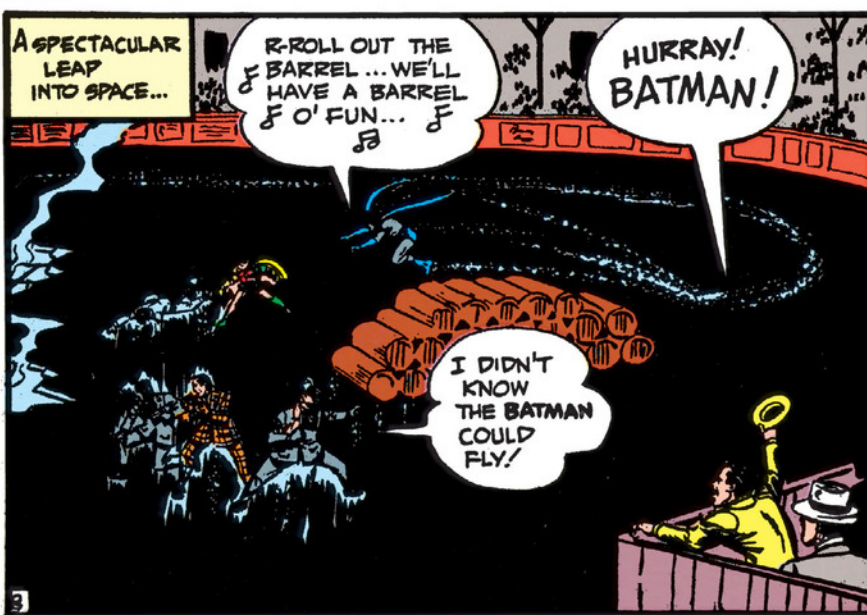
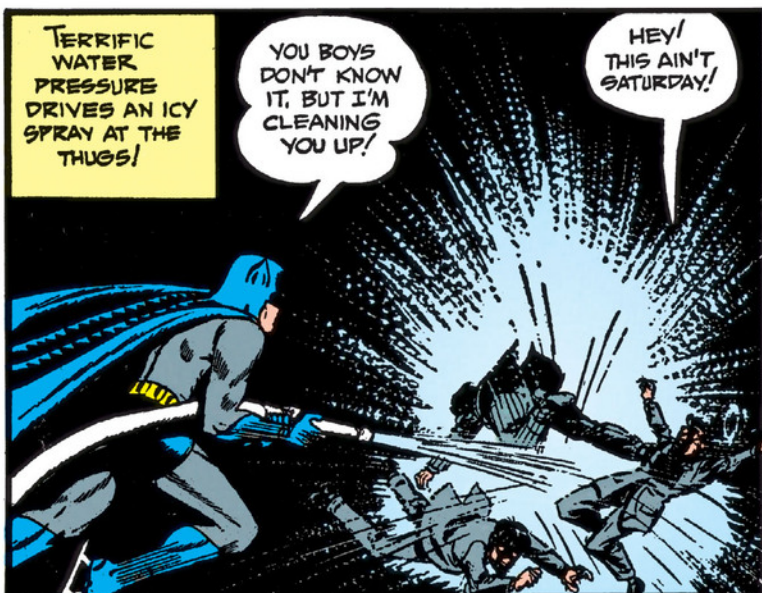
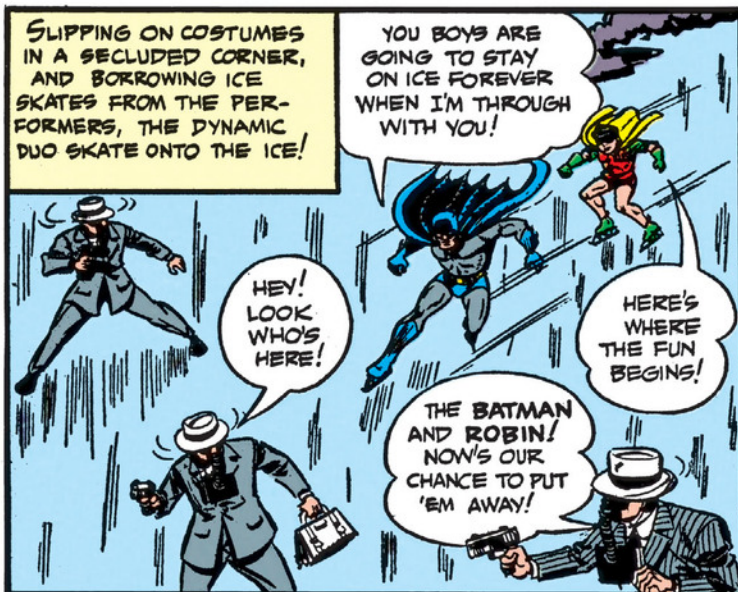


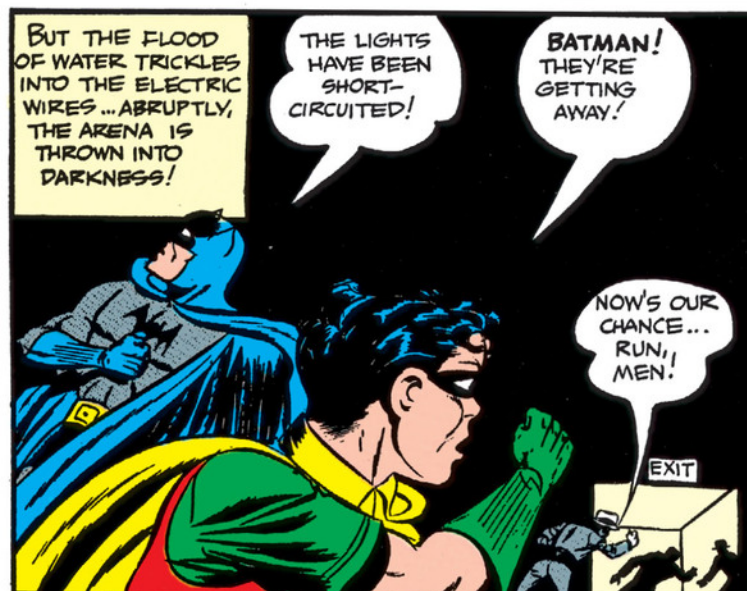
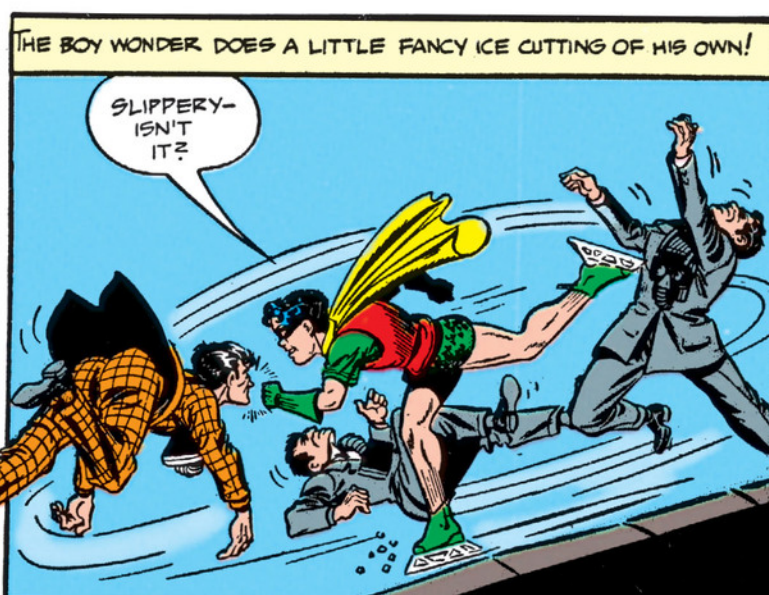
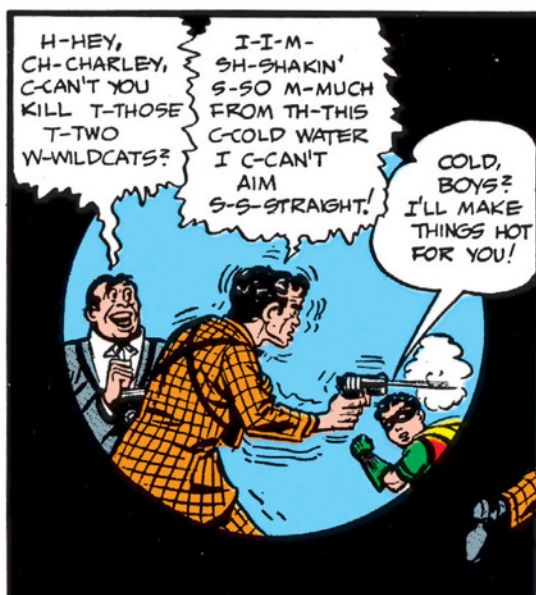


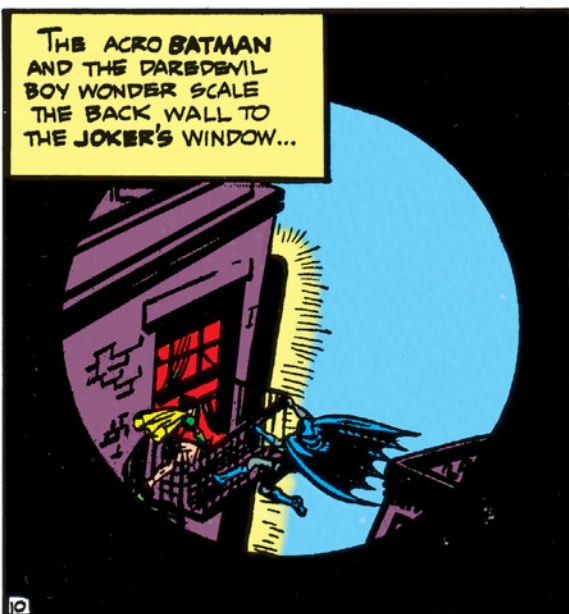
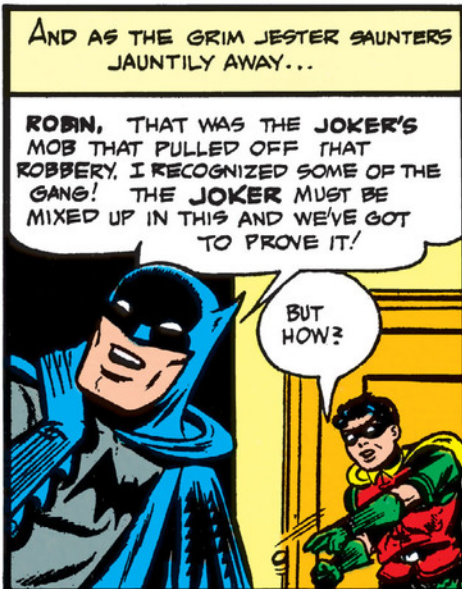


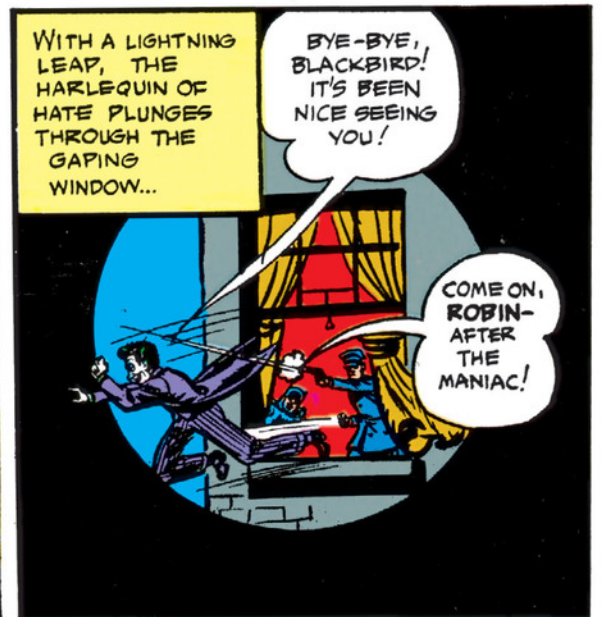
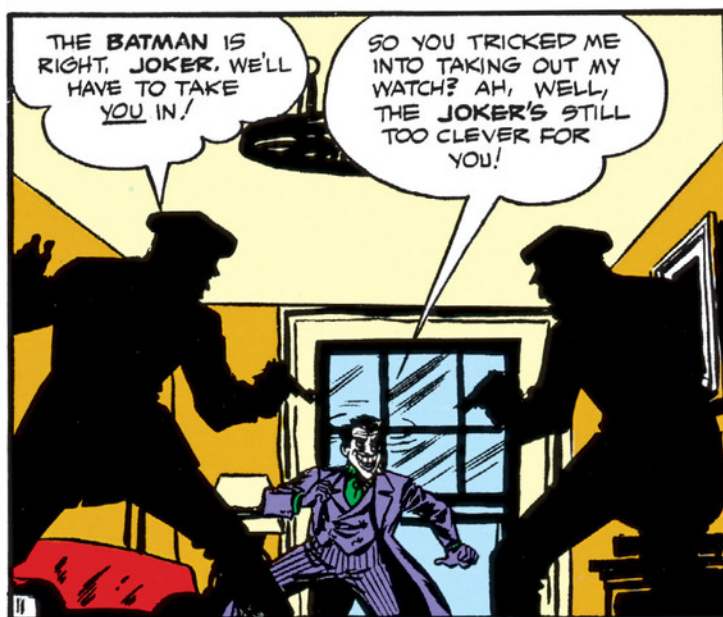
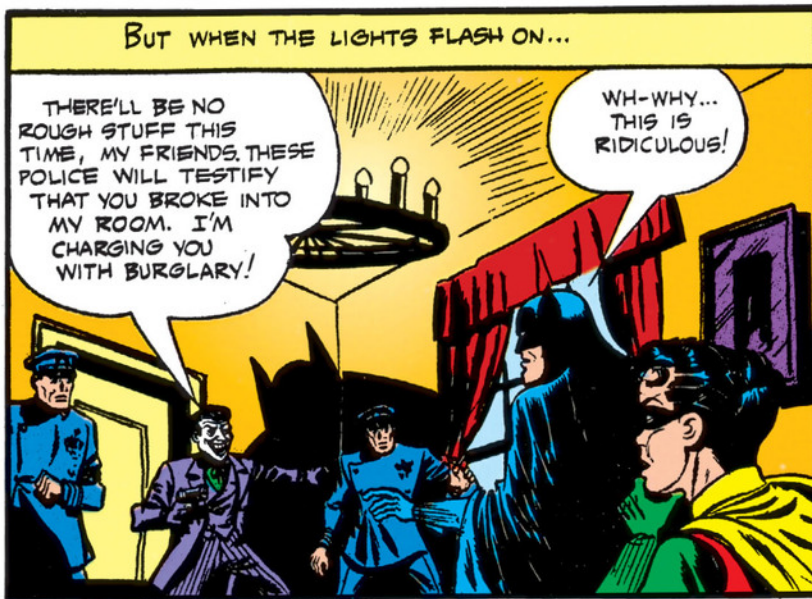


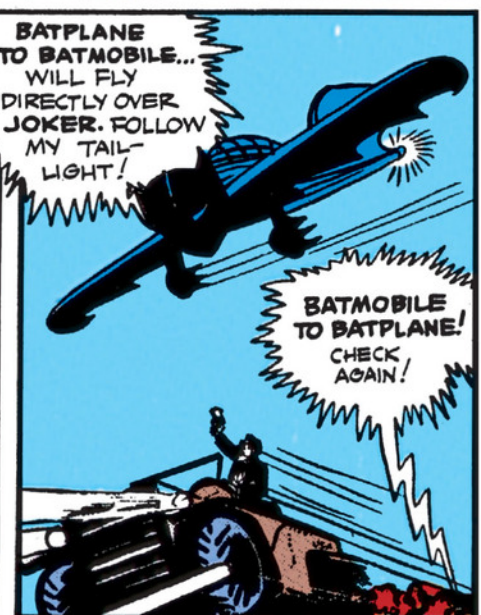
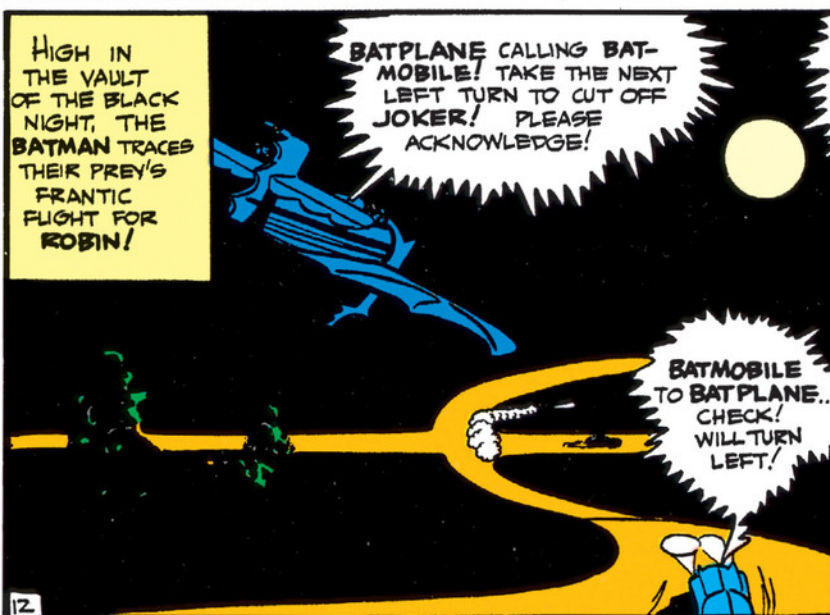
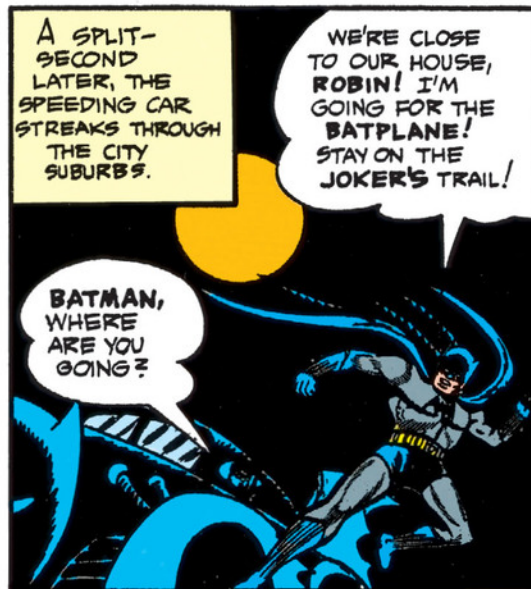
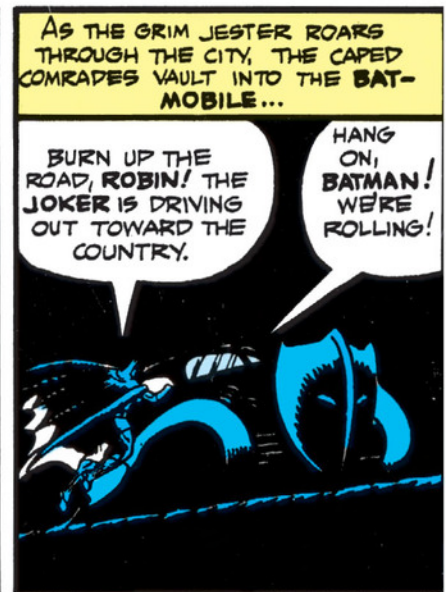
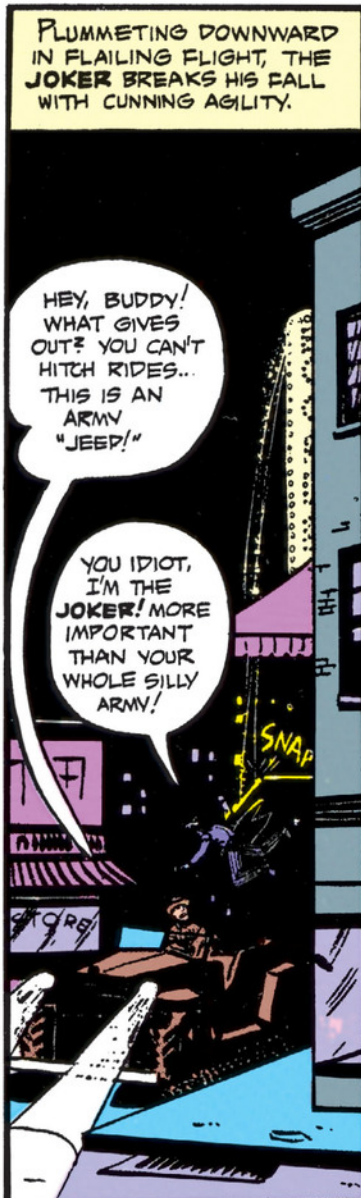


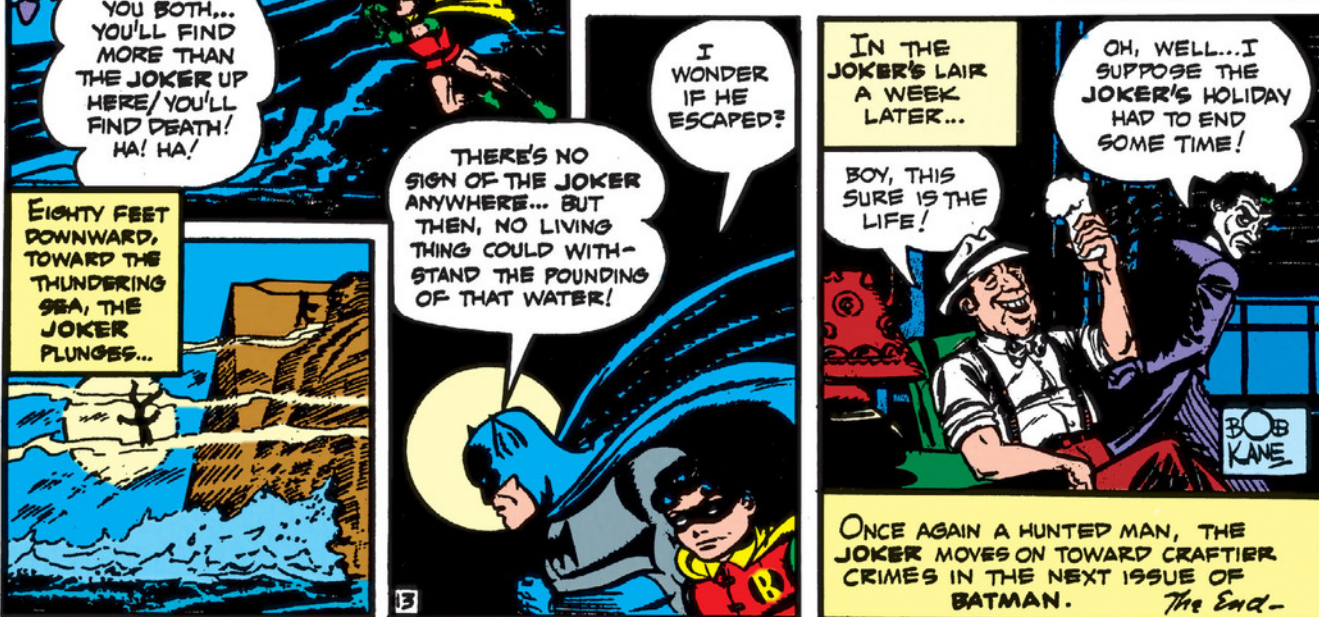
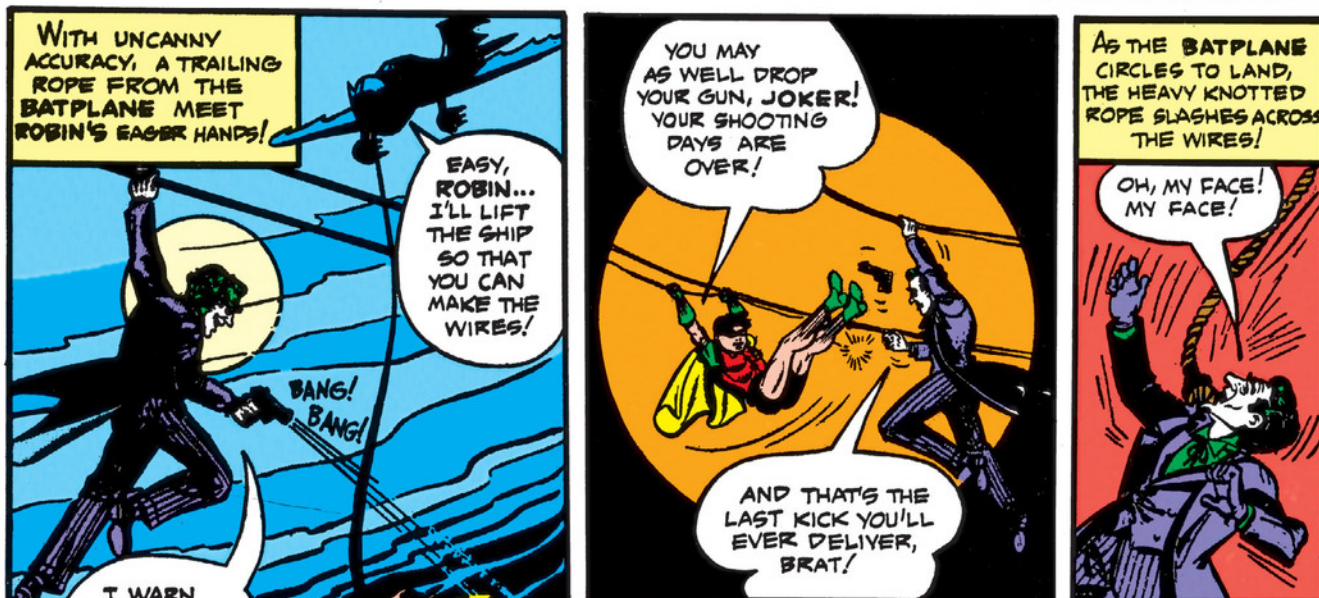
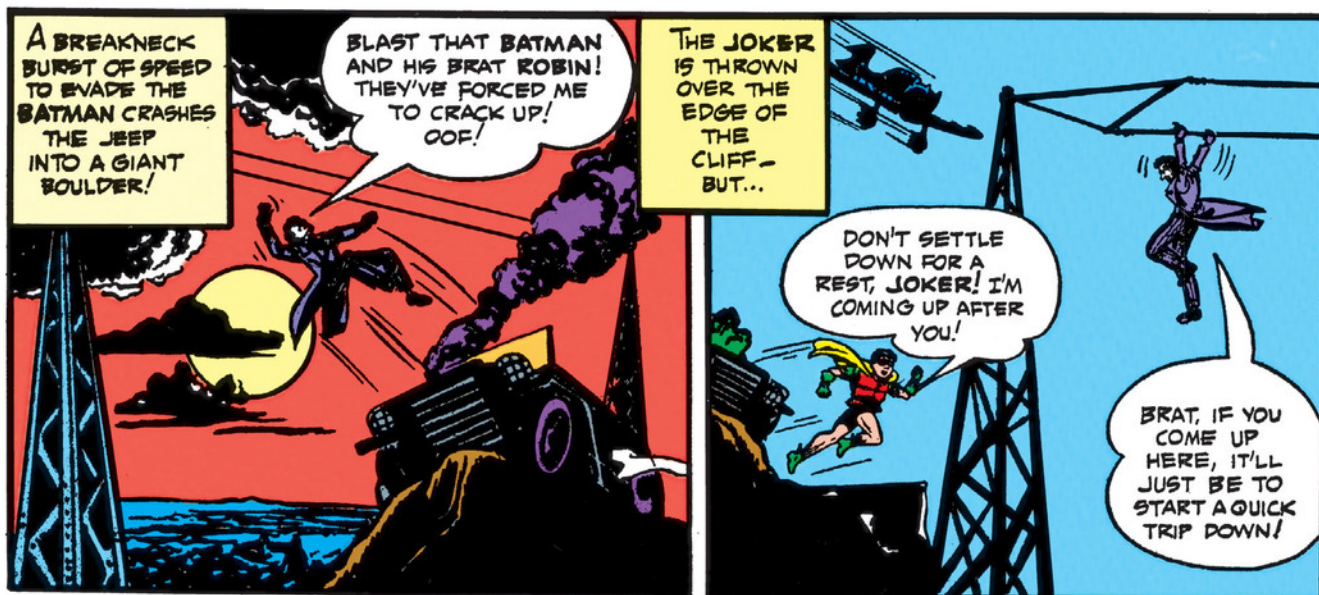












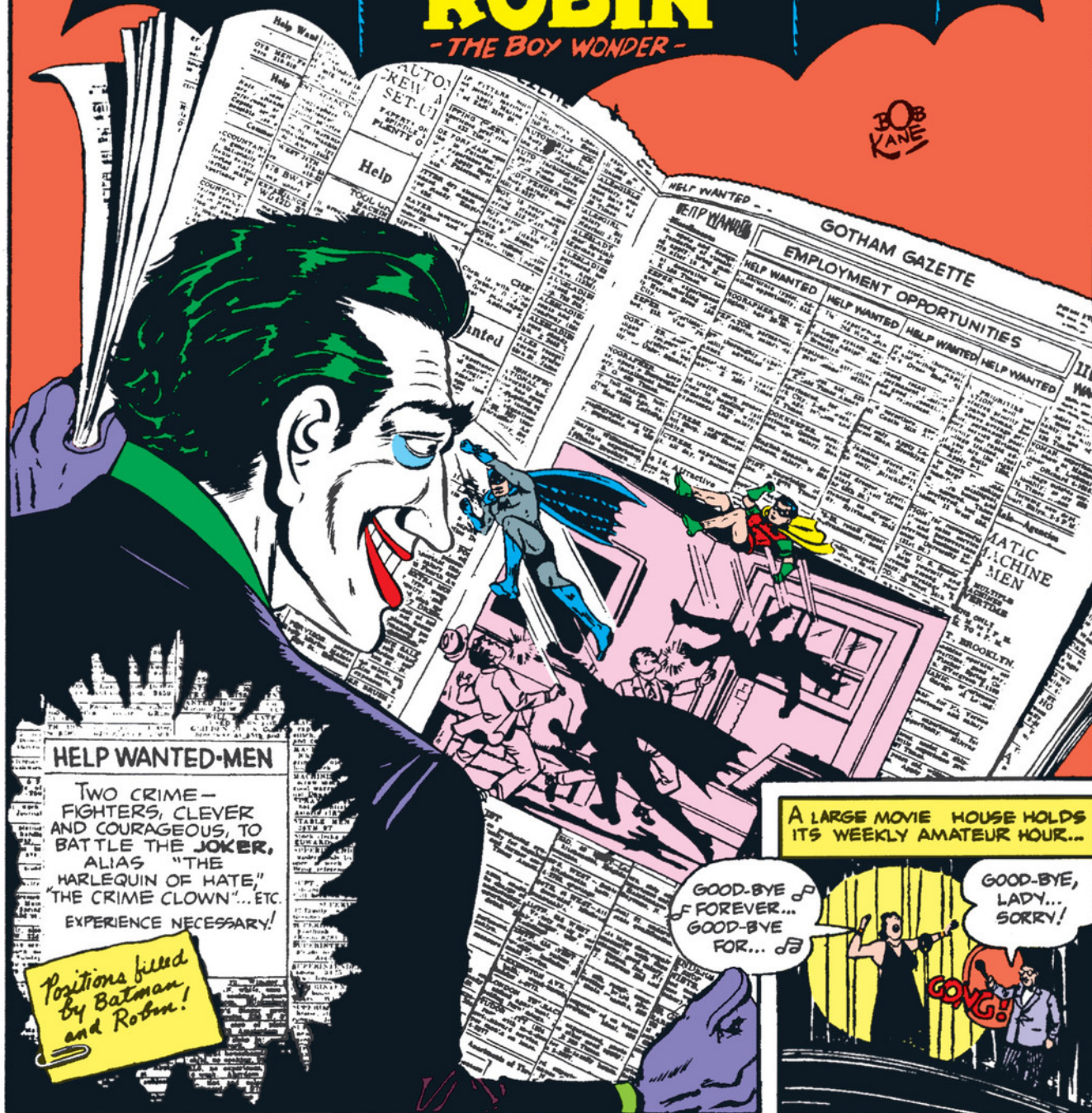


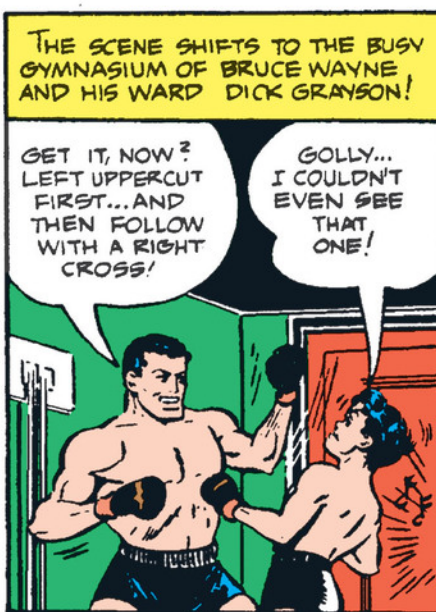
BATMAN

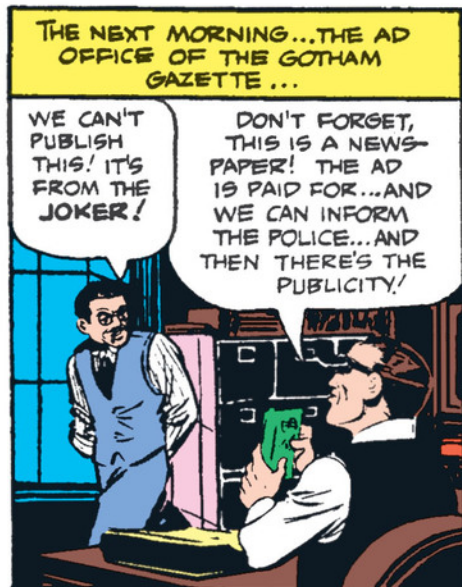
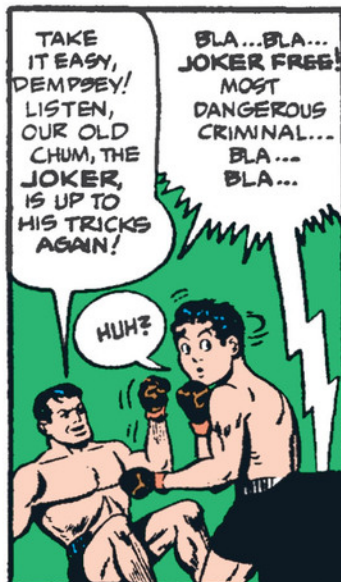
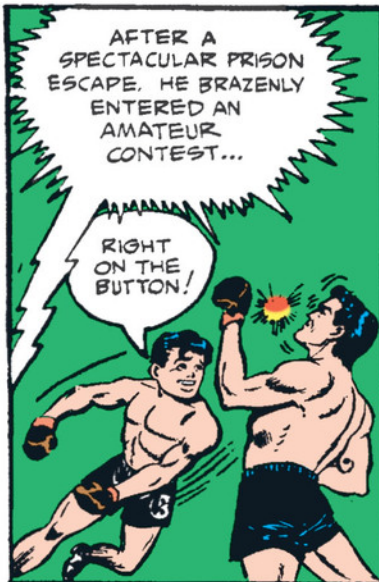
WITH
ROBIN

- THE BOY WONDER -

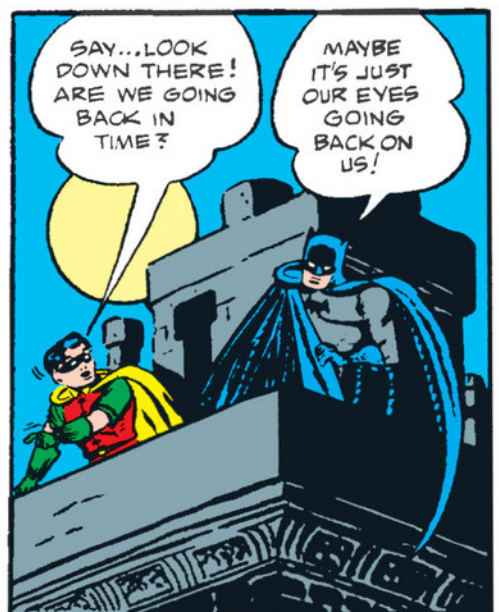
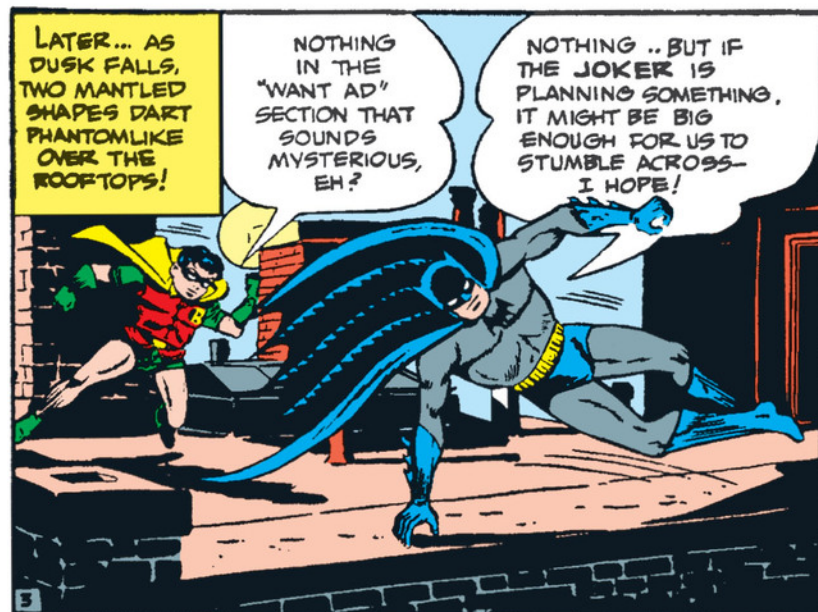
BOB
KANE

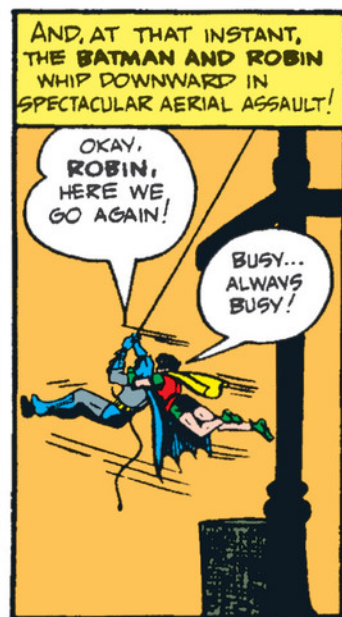
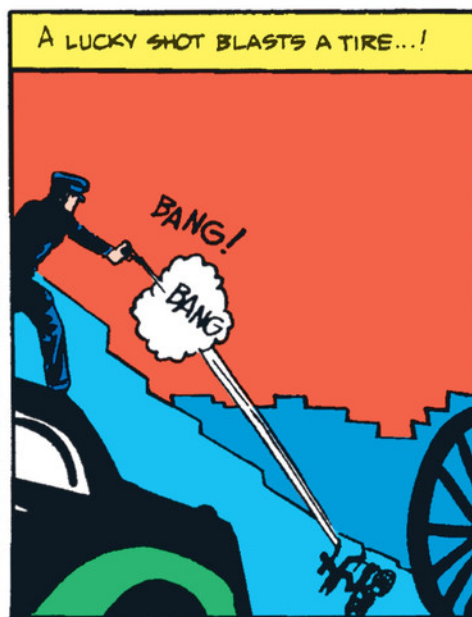
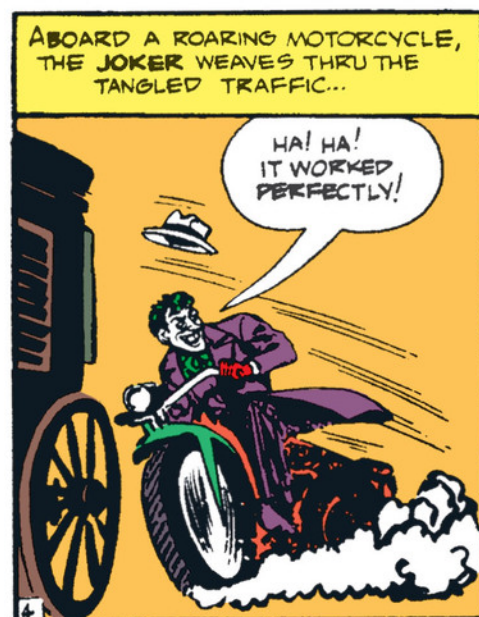
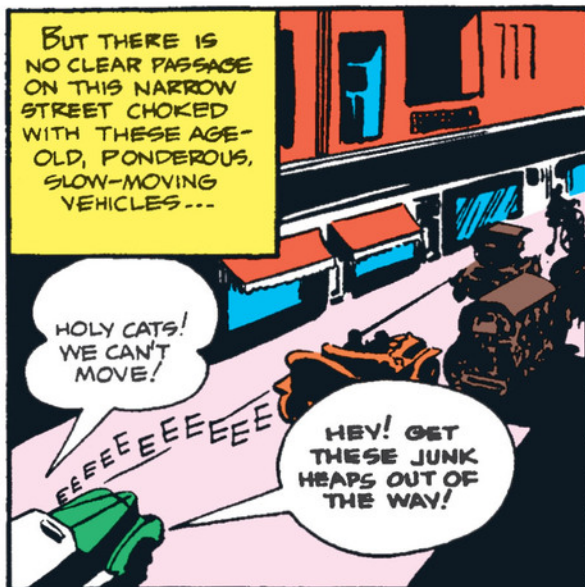


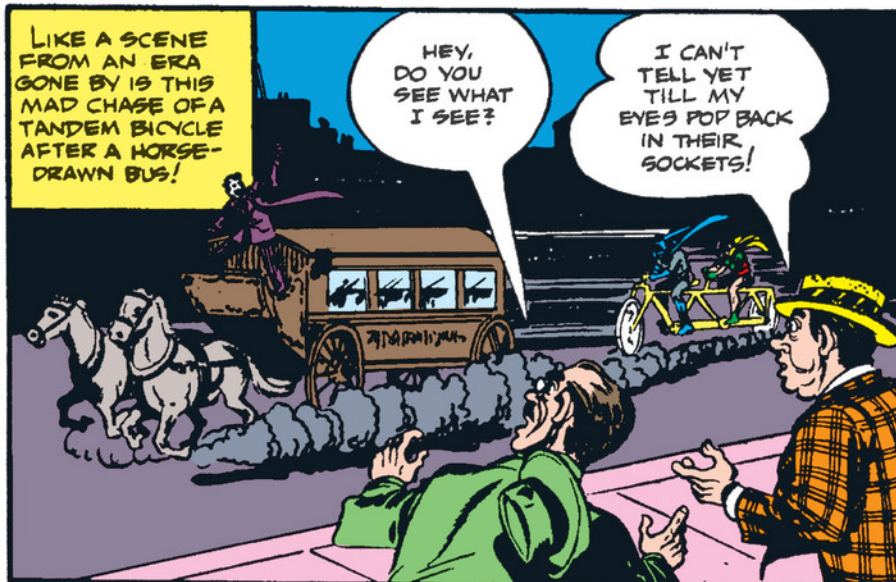
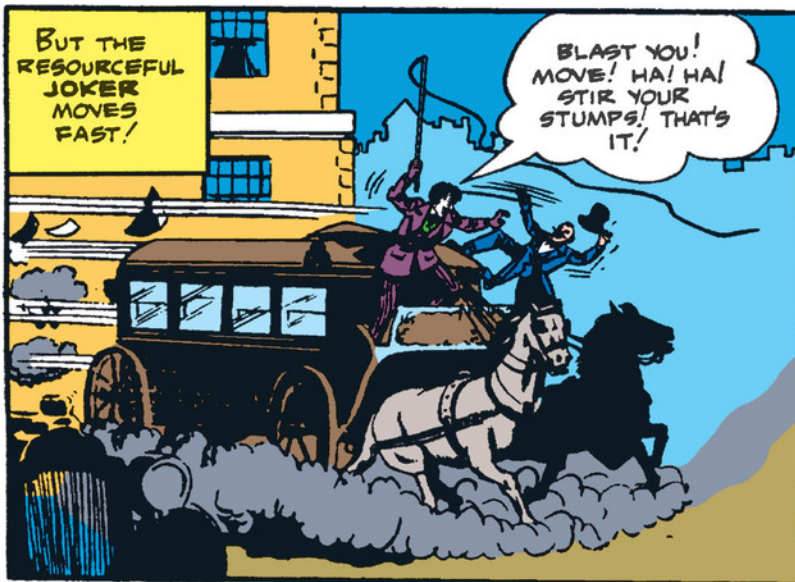


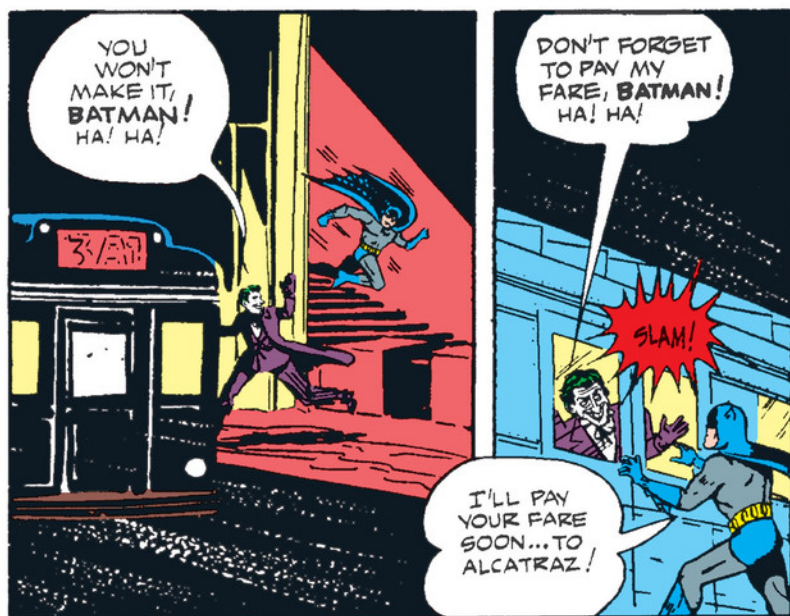
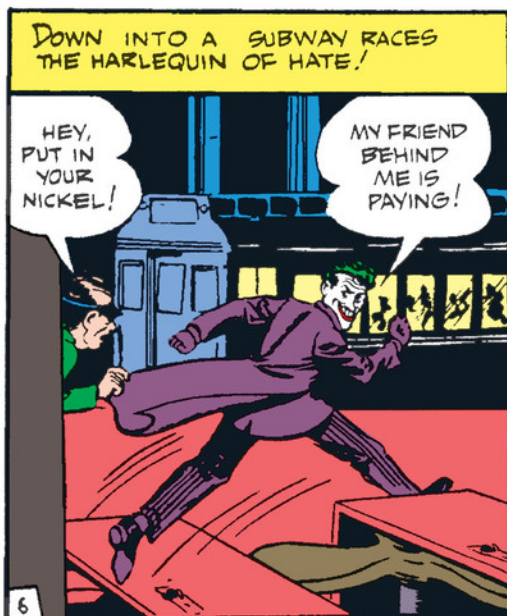
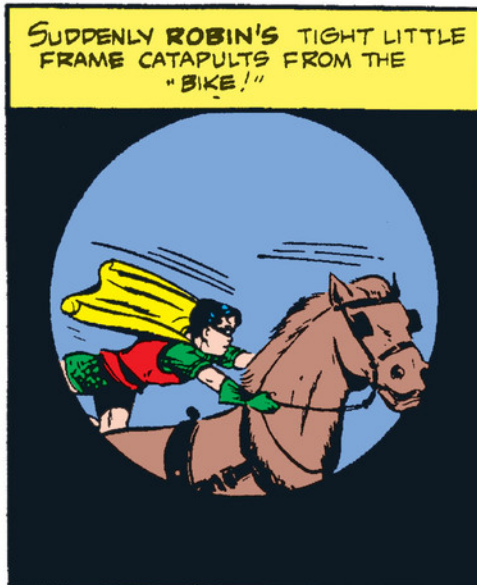
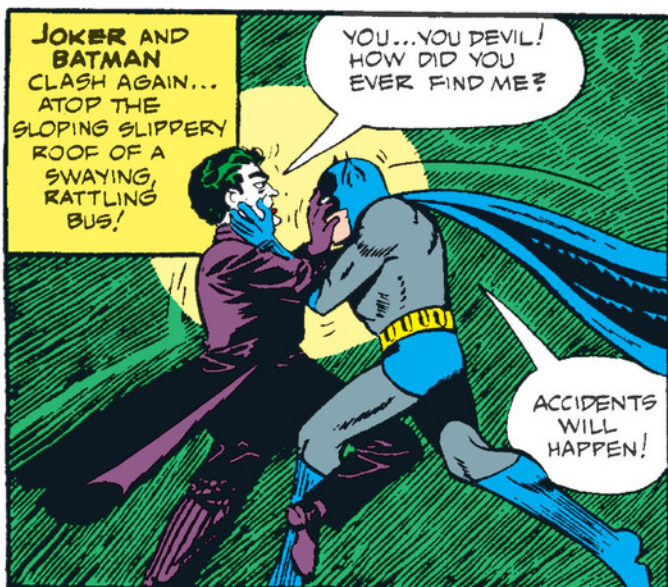


AND SO THE GOTHAM GAZETTE PUBLISHES THIS FULL-PAGE AD.









Later...

WANTED

OLD VEHICLES FOR GAY NINETIES MOTIV PICTURES! WILL PAY BIG PRICES DELIVER SHARPLY! AT 8 P.M. ONLY! MAJOR PICTURES, 68 MORRIS ST.

THERE! THAT'S THE AD THAT DID THE TRICK FOR THE JOKER!

BY MAKING ALL THOSE OLD BUGGIES APPEAR AT THE SAME TIME, AND BY PURPOSELY PICKING A NARROW STREET, THE JOKER BLOCKED OFF ALL PURSUIT BY THE POLICE! 68 MORRIS STREET HAPPENS TO BE A STORE NEXT DOOR TO THE JEWELER'S. CLEVER, EH?

AND HOW! I WONDER WHAT TRICK HE'S GOING TO PULL OUT OF HIS HAT NEXT?

THE NEXT DAY, THE TWO EAGERLY SCAN THE WANT ADS.

NO, NOT A THING HERE THAT SOUNDS SUSPICIOUS!

AND DON'T FORGET, ANYTHING HERE MIGHT BE USED FOR CRIME IN SOME WAY... BUT HOW CAN WE PICK THE RIGHT ONE?

THE SAME AD IS READ BY THE HARLEQUIN OF HATE...

WANTED

POLICE TO KEEP AWAY CROWDS THAT WILL MOB THE PREMIERE PERFORMANCE OF PRESTO THE MAGICIAN AT THE GOTHAM THEATER!

HA! HA! HERE'S A WANT AD! SWELL PUBLICITY STUNT FOR PRESTO, EH?

SAY ALMOST FORGOT! I'M GOING TO THAT SHOW, LINDA MAY PHONE IF SHE CAN MEET ME LATER, SO RELAY HER MESSAGE!

LOVE! AH, LOVE!

EVERYONE THINKS IT'S JUST PUBLICITY. EVEN THE BATMAN WON'T SUSPECT IT AS MY QUAINT WAY OF ADVERTISING ANOTHER CRIME! HA! HA!

WEALTHY "FIRST-NIGHTERS" ATTEND THE PREMIERE OF PRESTO, THE INTERNATIONALLY FAMOUS MAGICIAN!

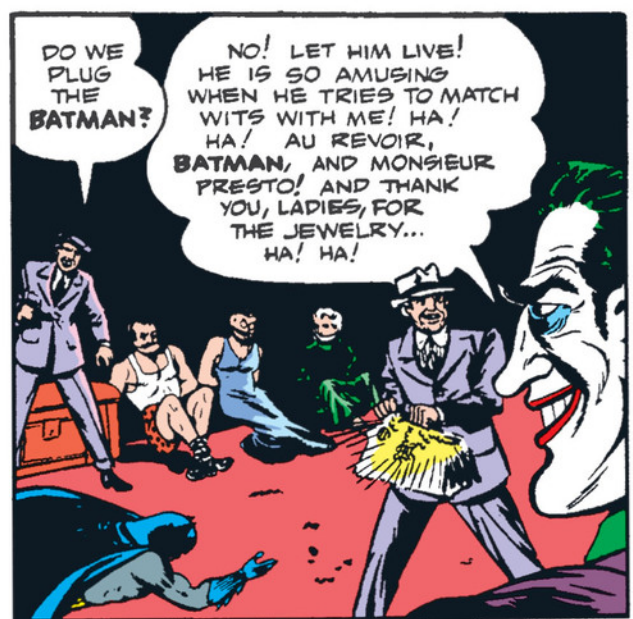
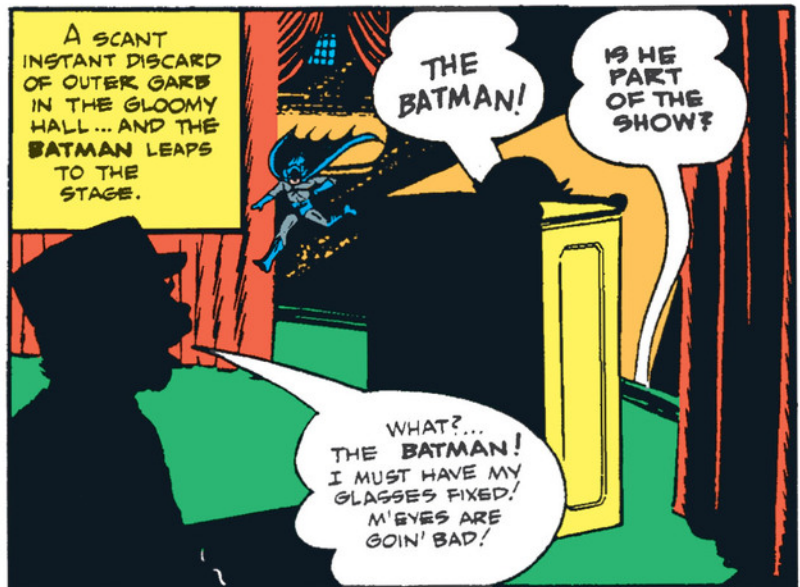
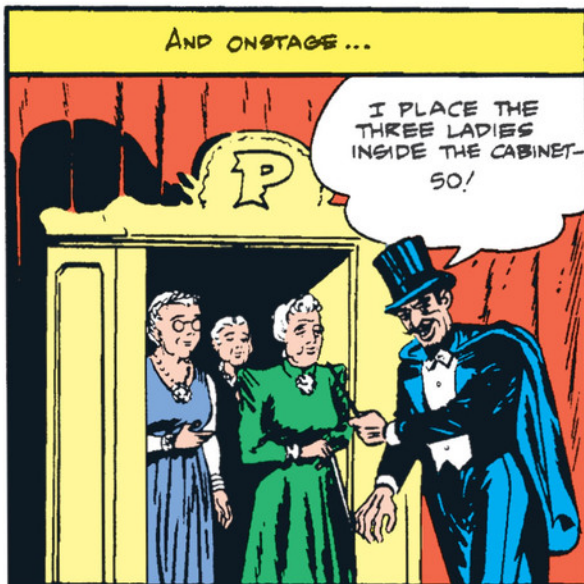
FOR MY FIRST TRICK, I WILL NEED SOME ASSISTANCE, AND SO I WILL CHOOSE THREE LADIES FROM AMONG YOU...

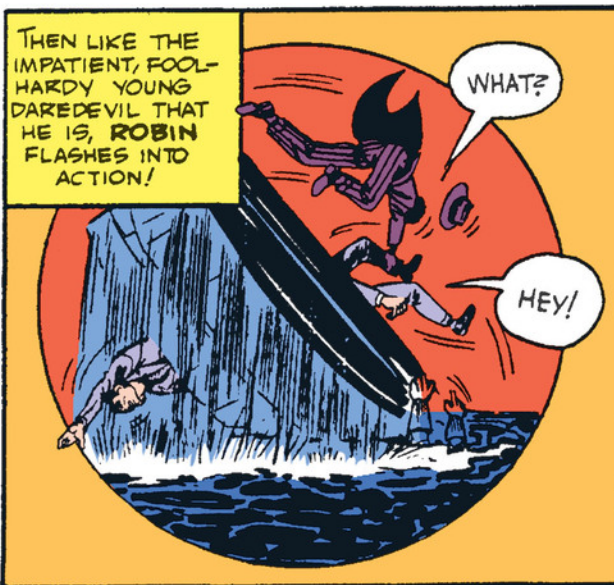
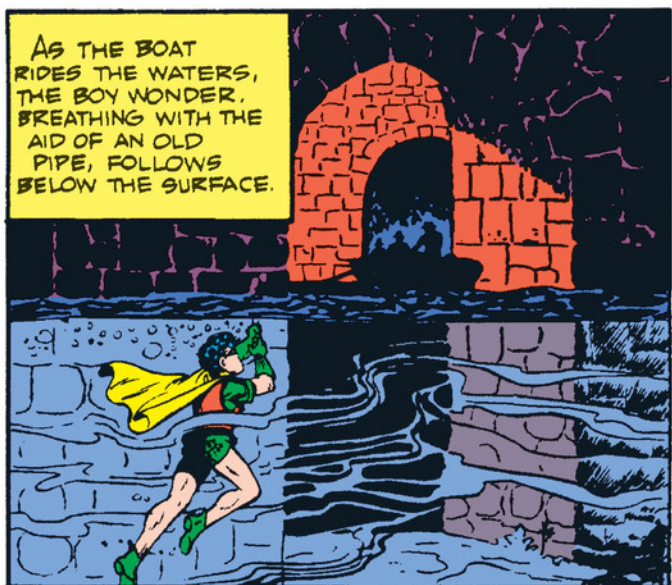
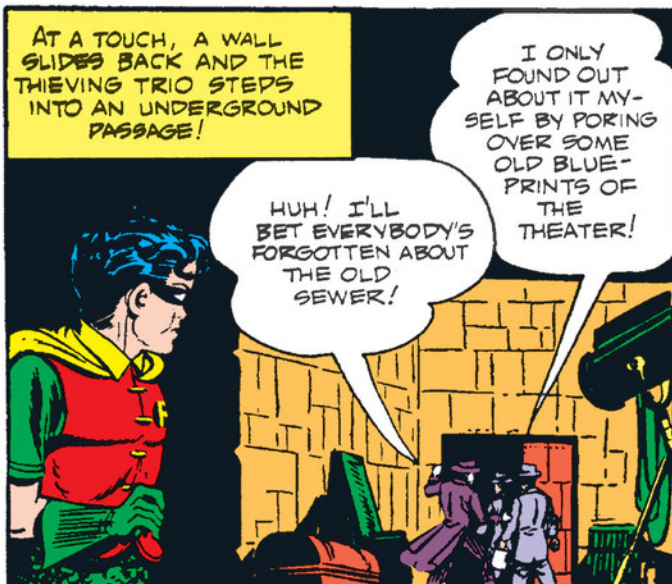
AT THAT INSTANT, LINDA'S MESSAGE BRINGS DICK BEFORE THE THEATRE IN TIME TO OVERHEAR...

YOU MEAN, THAT YOU, THE PUBLICITY AGENT, DIDN'T PLACE THAT AD IN THE PAPER?

I WISH I HAD THOUGHT OF IT, BUT I DIDN'T! THE PAPER GOT THE MONEY AND INSTRUCTIONS ANONYMOUSLY THROUGH THE MAIL. I CAN'T UNDERSTAND IT!

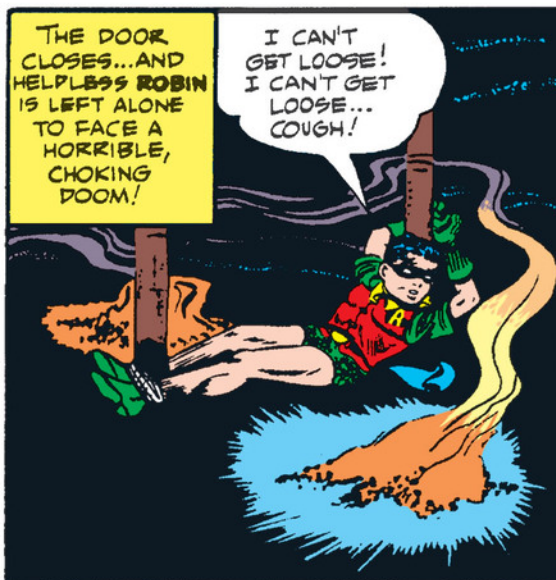
BUT I CAN - THE JOKER!







THIS IS PLAIN SULPHUR. ITS FUMES CAN OVERPOWER A HUMAN! HA! HA! SUFFOCATES! JUST LIKE A BLANKET! HA! HA! SLEEP WELL! HA-HA! GOOD JOKE, EH? HA! HA!



THE DOOR CLOSES...AND HELPLESS ROBIN IS LEFT ALONE TO FACE A HORRIBLE, CHOKING DOOM!

I CAN'T GET LOOSE! I CAN'T GET LOOSE... COUGH!



MINUTES PASS AND THE SULPHUROUS FUMES RISE THICKLY ABOUT THE BOY LIKE A MALIGNANT CLOUD!

(COUGH) I'M GOING TO DIE... NO... MUSTN'T LOSE MY HEAD... MUST THINK... THINK...(COUGH)



SUDDENLY ROBIN'S PROBING FINGERS ENCOUNTER A WIRE...

A TELEPHONE WIRE... PROBABLY DISCONNECTED A LONG TIME AGO! IT'S SPLICED AT THIS POINT! MAYBE... MAYBE...



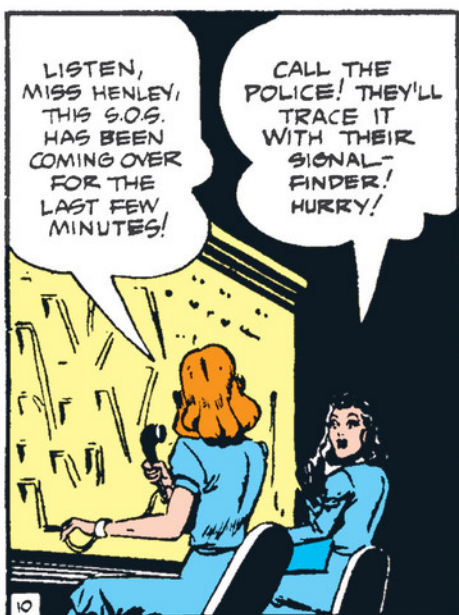
FUMBLING IN THEIR HASTE, HIS FINGERS SLOWLY, LABORIOUSLY UNWIND THE TAPE FROM THE SPLICED WIRES.

IT MIGHT WORK...THERE'S A CHANCE...I'VE GOT A CHANCE!



THEN, WHEN THE SPLICED WIRES ARE UNWOUND, ROBIN TAPS ONE WIRE AGAINST THE OTHER...

OUT INTO SPACE GOES A CALL FOR HELP! WILL IT BE HEARD... BEFORE IT IS TOO LATE?



LISTEN, MISS HENLEY, THIS S.O.S. HAS BEEN COMING OVER FOR THE LAST FEW MINUTES!

CALL THE POLICE! THEY'LL TRACE IT WITH THEIR SIGNAL-FINDER! HURRY!



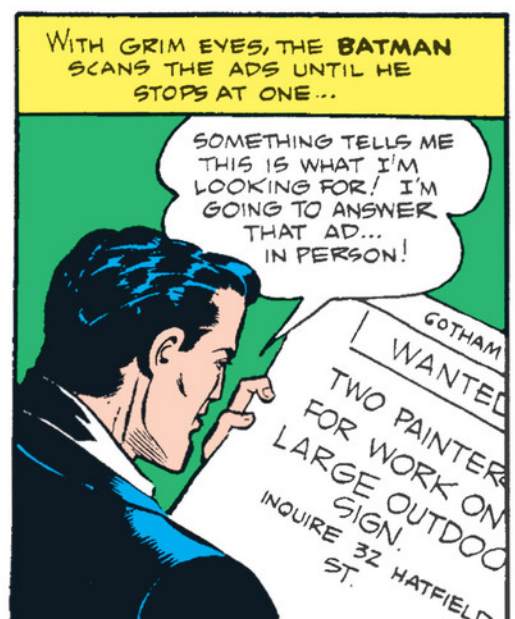
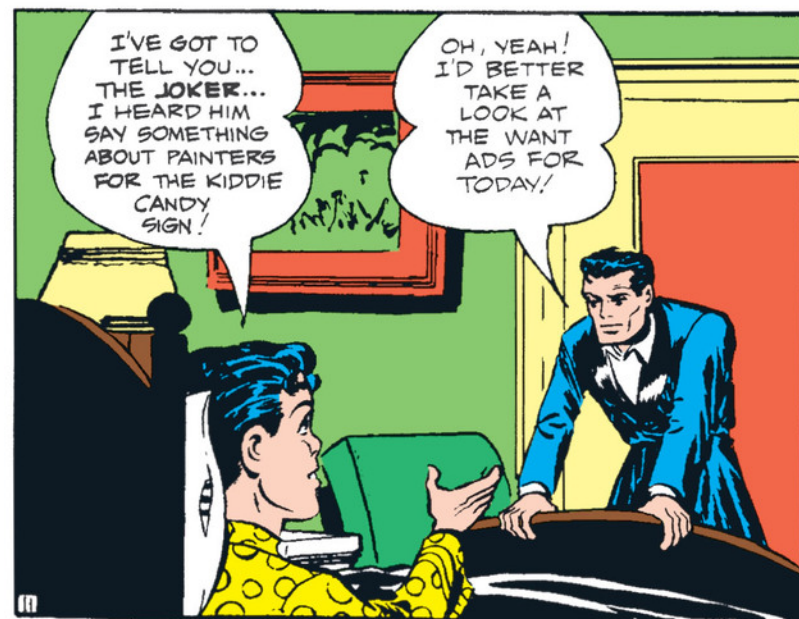
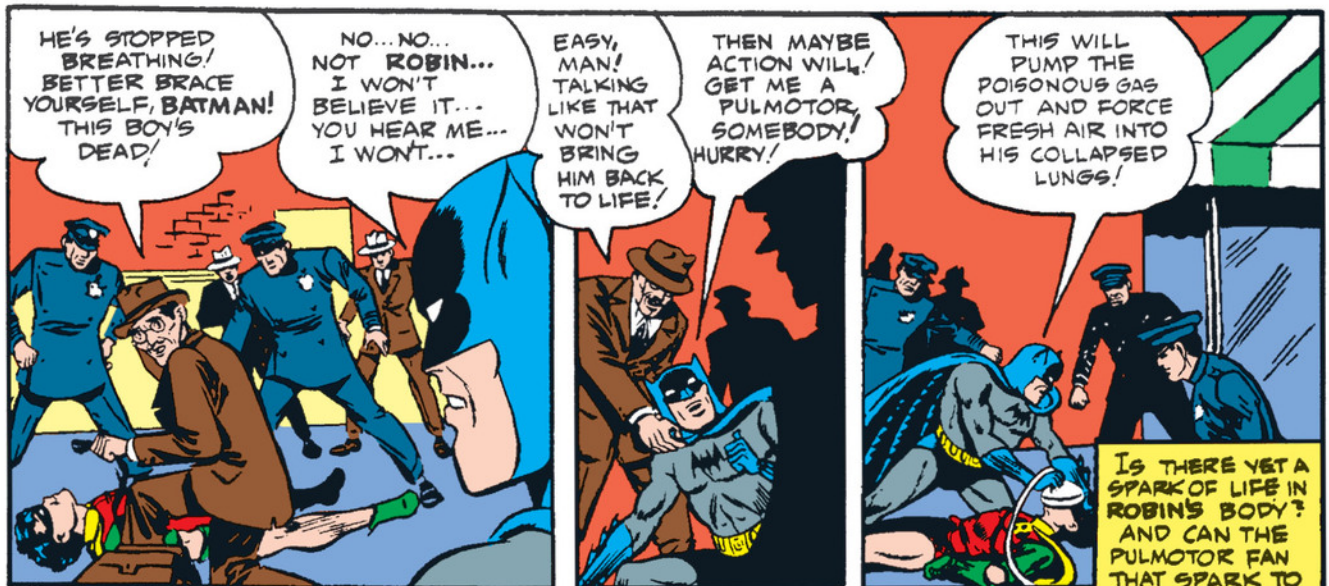
AND SO A DESPERATE MESSAGE IS TRANSMITTED OVER THE WIRES...

WILL IT BE PICKED UP BY THE BATMAN... IN TIME?



MINUTES LATER... A POWERFUL FRAME RIPS A DOOR FROM ITS HINGES...

(COUGH) ROBIN, ROBIN! HE'S LYING SO STILL! MAYBE...NO... IT CAN'T BE!...



ATOP THE MARTIER JEWELRY BUILDING, THE DISGUISED JOKER PUTS HIS PLAN TO WORK...

YESSIR!

Cand

YOU TWO GO AHEAD. I'VE GOT TO TAKE THE STAIRS DOWN TO THE FLOOR BELOW WHERE I LEFT THE TURPENTINE!

AND IN THE JEWELRY STORE IN THE LOBBY OF THE BUILDING THE GRIM JESTER ACTS WITH TERRIBLY FAMILIAR SWIFTNESS!

HE'S TAKING THE ONLY ELEVATOR! WE'LL HAVE TO TAKE THE STAIRS, C'MON!

HA! HA! HA!

WHEN THE ROOF IS FINALLY REACHED, THE JOKER IS ONCE AGAIN THE INNOCENT PAINTER...

HEY, YOU UP THERE! DID YOU SEE THE JOKER PASS THIS WAY?

NOT ME! DID YOU, FELLOWS?

WE DIDN'T SEE HIM!

AT THAT MOMENT, THE BATMAN HEARS THE NEWS VIA THE 'POLICE CALL!'

CALLING ALL CARS... JOKER JUST ROBBED MARTIER'S JEWELRY STORE.

WELL... WELL... ACTION ALREADY!

A KIDDIE CANDY SIGN ABOVE MARTIER'S! NOW I KNOW HOW THE JOKER WORKED THIS JOB...AND WHERE HE IS AT THIS MOMENT!

Moments later...

HEY, JOKER!

THE BATMAN!

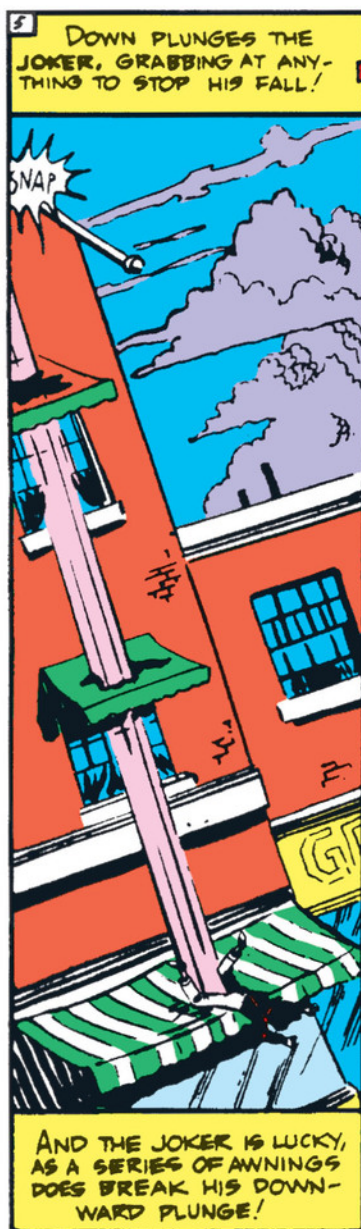
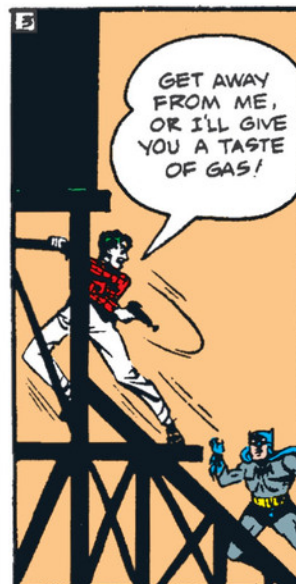
THE JOKER RIPS OFF HIS DISGUISE AND MAKES A DESPERATE LEAP FOR THE ADJOINING ROOF...

I FIGURED YOU'D SHOW YOURSELF WHEN YOU SAW ME! WHEN I GET YOU...I'M...

BUT YOU'RE NOT GOING TO GET ME! HA! HA! HA!

THAT'S YOUR FIRST MISTAKE, BROTHER!

UH!



BATMAN

WITH
ROBIN
BOY WONDER

ALL MEN ARE CREATED EQUAL --- BUT MANY ARE THE TRAILS THEY FOLLOW THROUGH THEIR ENDINGS. VERY DIFFERENT THEIR STORY OF HERE IS THE STRANGE TOGETHER BUT TWO WHO STARTED APART --- THE FINISHED A WORLD AND SUCCESSFUL, ONE HONORED AND FOREVER DOOMED BY HIS MISDEEDS! IT IS A STORY OF FRIENDSHIP AND TREACHERY, OF VIOLENCE AND HEROISM --- AND OF A HUMAN PROBLEM SO KNOTTY THAT IT TOOK THE NIMBLE BRAINS AND FLASHING FISTS OF THE MIGHTY **BATMAN AND ROBIN** THE BOY WONDER TO SOLVE IT! IN THE CASEBOOK OF THE **BATMAN**, IT IS CALLED ---

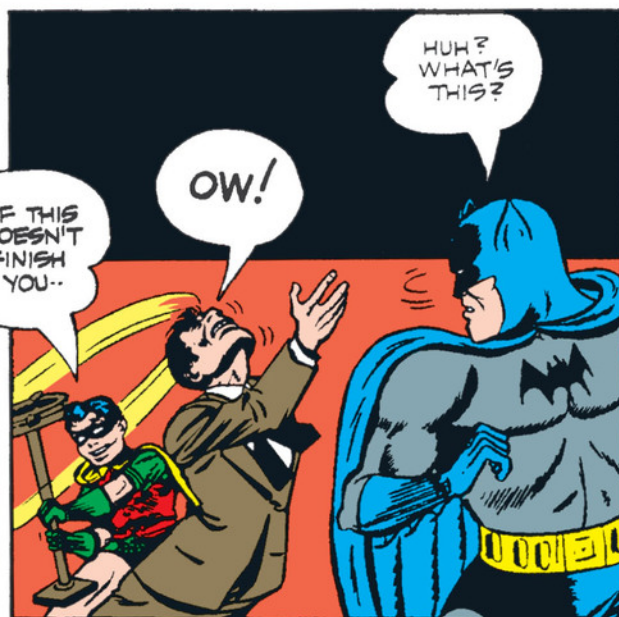
"Payment in Full."

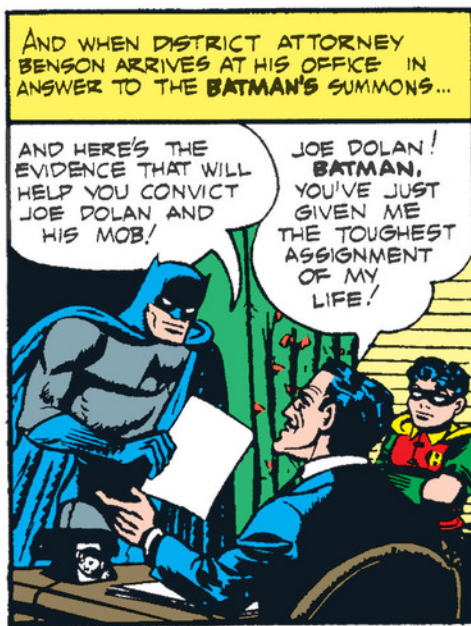
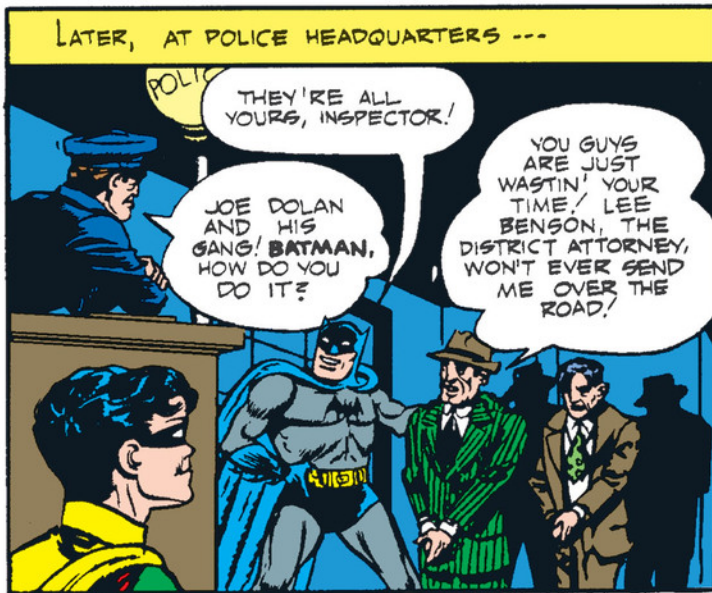
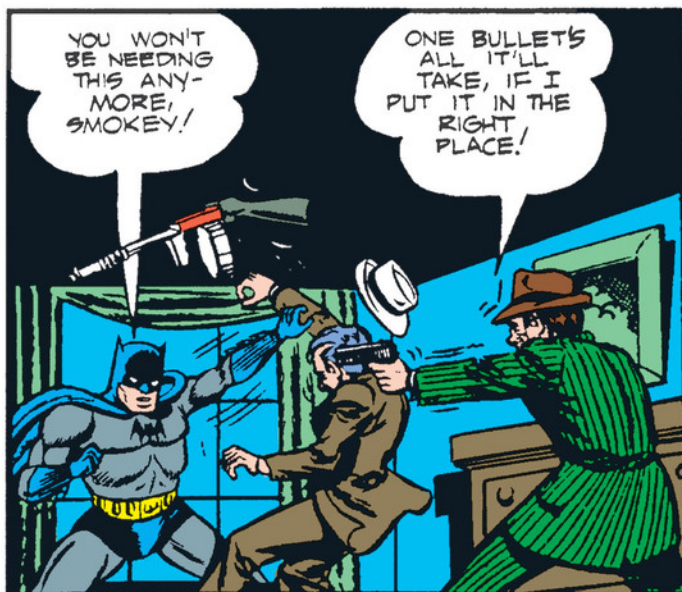


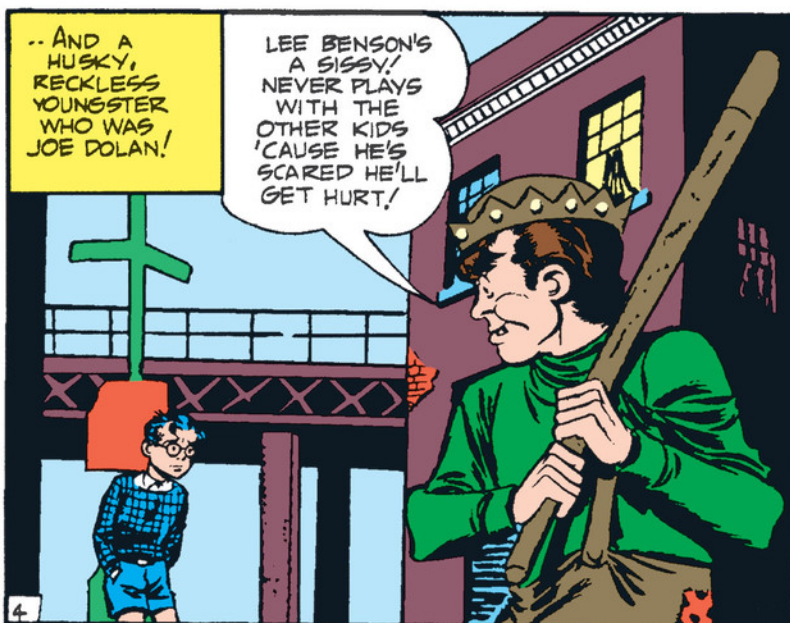
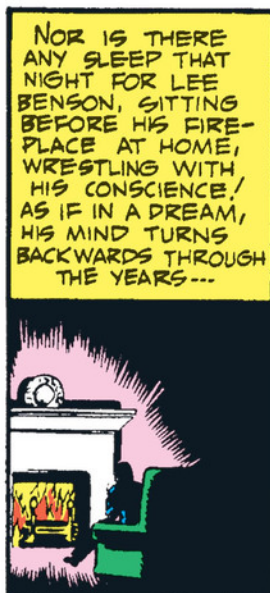
NIGHT --- AND TWO CAPED FIGURES REACH THE END OF A THRILLING MANHUNT ---

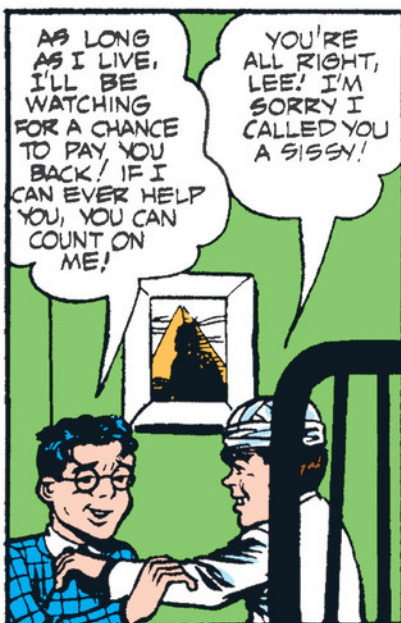
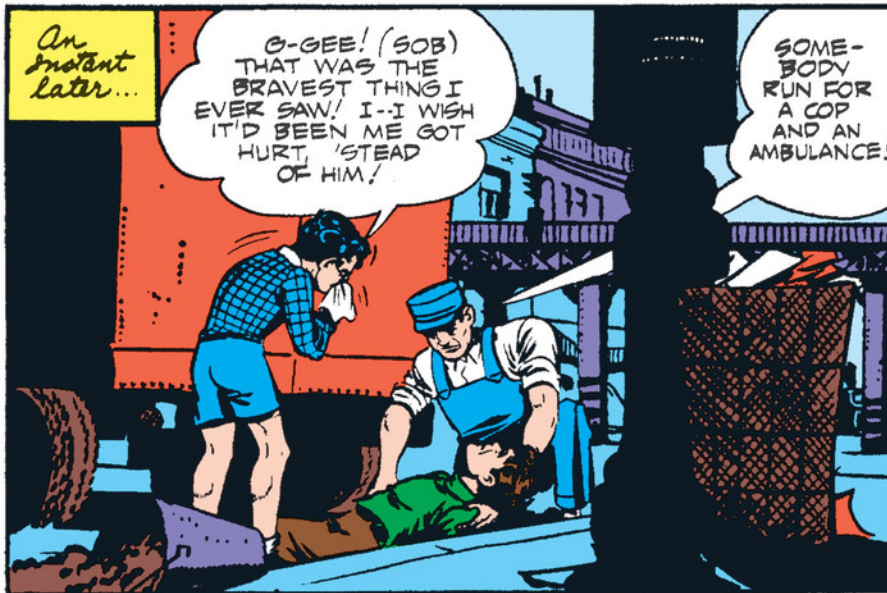
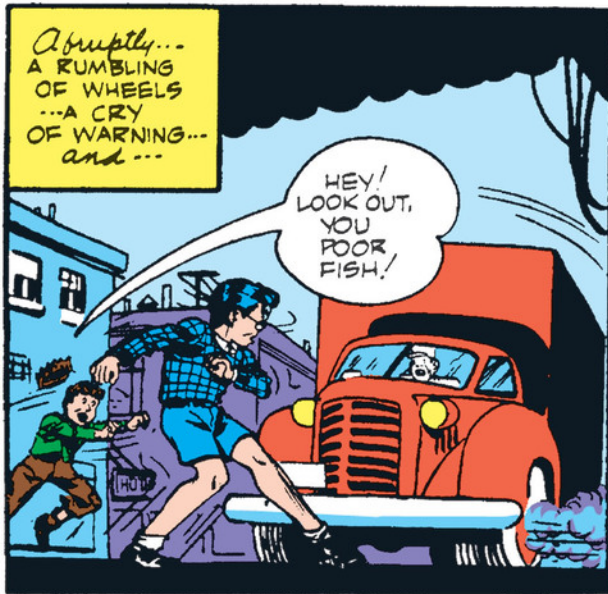
HERE IT IS, ROBIN --- THE HIDEOUT OF JOE DOLAN, WANTED ROBBER AND MURDERER!

WELL, WHAT ARE WE WAITING FOR!

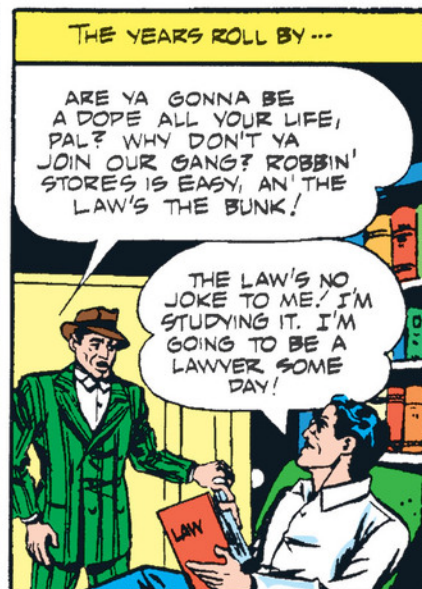








BUT AS THE YEARS PASS, A CHANGE COMES OVER JOE DOLAN---



NOW THE FRIENDS BEGIN TO DRIFT APART, AS LEE SPENDS HIS NIGHTS WITH HIS BOOKS---

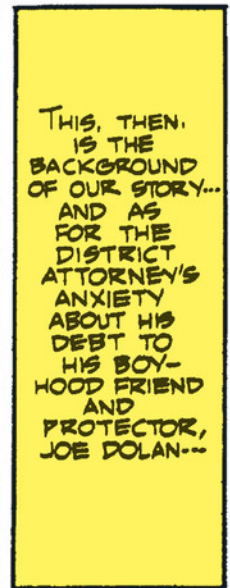
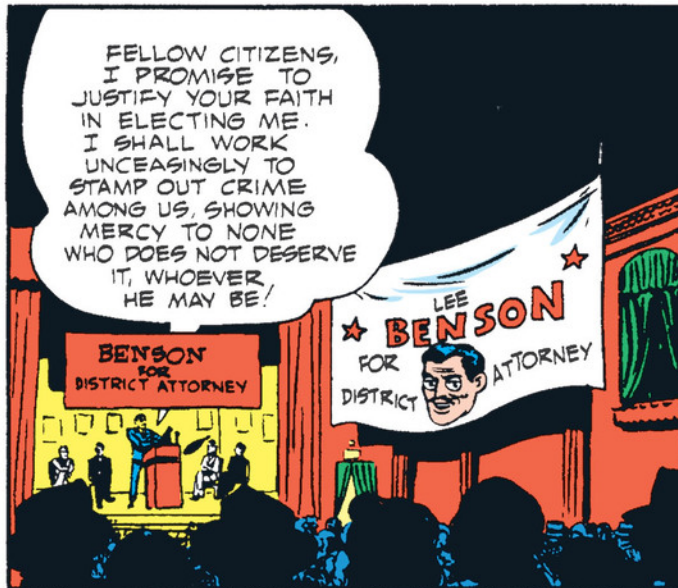


AND JOE'S NIGHTS ARE SPENT IN ANOTHER KIND OF ENDEAVOR.



BOTH ADVANCE RAPIDLY IN THEIR CHOSEN CAREERS---

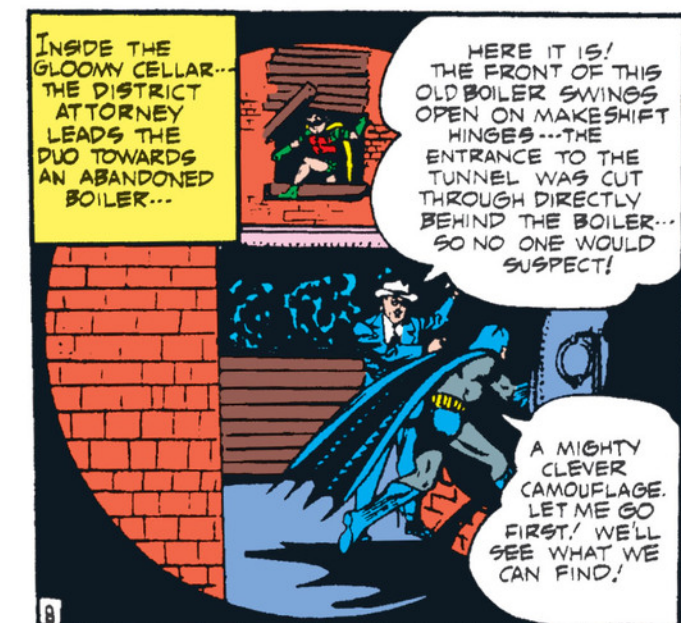
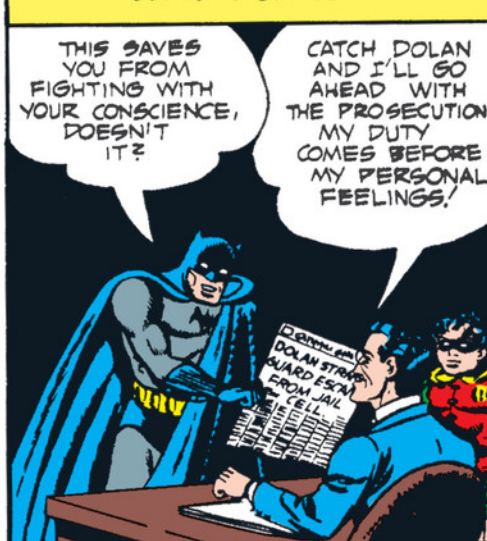




NEXT MORNING'S HEADLINES PROVE STARTLING TO BRUCE WAYNE AND HIS YOUNG WARD, DICK GRAYSON--



IN BENSON'S OFFICE...



MEANWHILE, IN A CAVERN-LIKE RECESS OF THE TUNNEL---

THIS IS WORSE'N JAIL! THE ONLY GOOD THING ABOUT IT IS I CAN LEAVE WHENEVER I WANT! BAH! THIS SOLITAIRE IS GETTIN' ON ME NERVES!



DISTANT SOUNDS MAKE THE FUGITIVE INSTANTLY ALERT---

WHAT'S THAT?... PROBABLY RATS...BUT I BETTER MAKE SURE!



CREEPING INTO THE TUNNEL, THE JITTERY DOLAN SPIES A SHADOWY SILHOUETTE...

CAN'T SEE INTO THAT DARKNESS, WHO'S THERE? SPEAK UP, OR I'LL BLAST YA!



BENSON MAKES A FORLORN ATTEMPT TO REASON WITH HIS ONE-TIME FRIEND---

IT'S LEE BENSON, JOE! SURRENDER AND I'LL GUARANTEE YOU'LL HAVE A FAIR TRIAL!

I'M AFRAID HE WON'T LIKE YOUR PROPOSITION!

WHAT? BENSON?



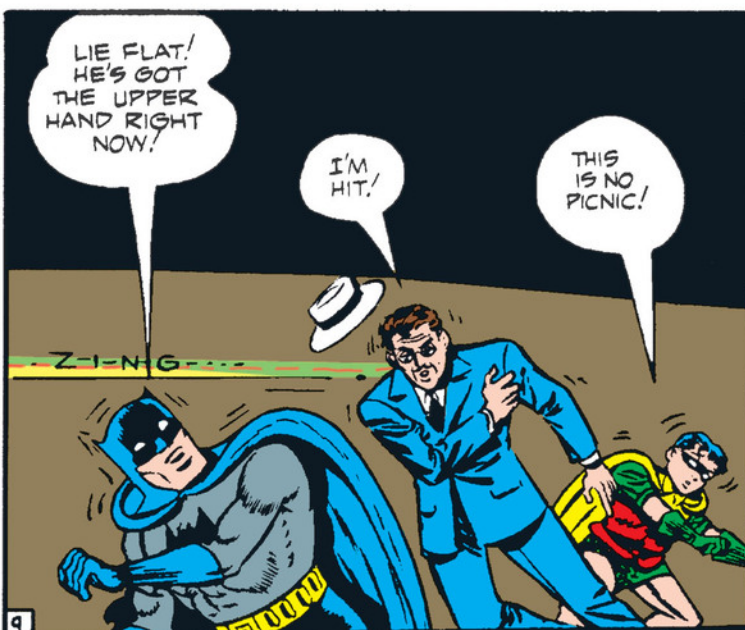
BENSON! YOU DOUBLE-CROSSING HEEL! I SHOULDA LET THAT TRUCK RUN OVER YOU!



LIE FLAT! HE'S GOT THE UPPER HAND RIGHT NOW!

I'M HIT!

THIS IS NO PICNIC!



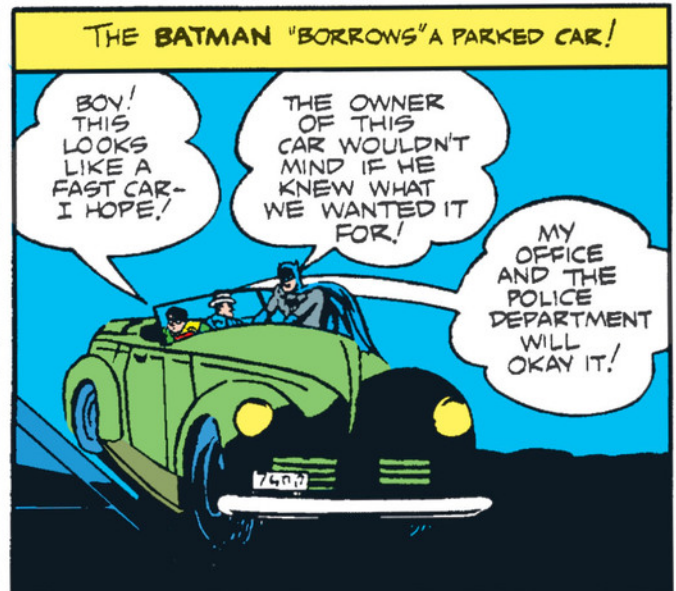
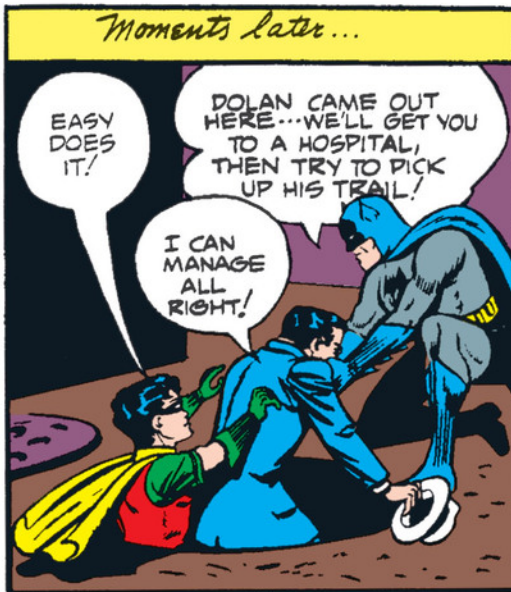
BLASTING LEAD COVERS THE RETREAT OF THE DESPERATE FUGITIVE CRIMINAL---

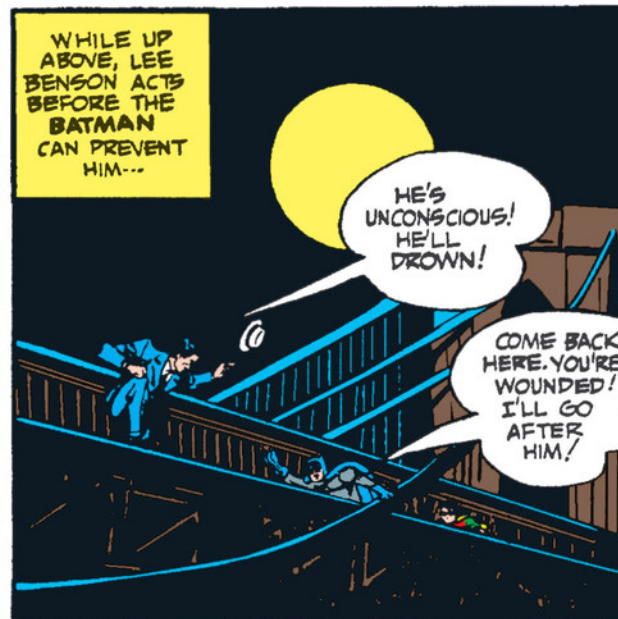
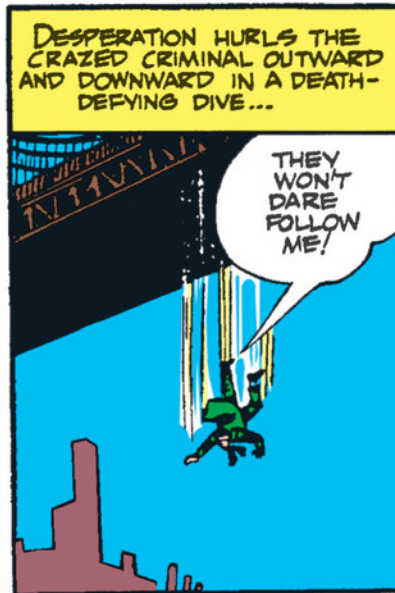
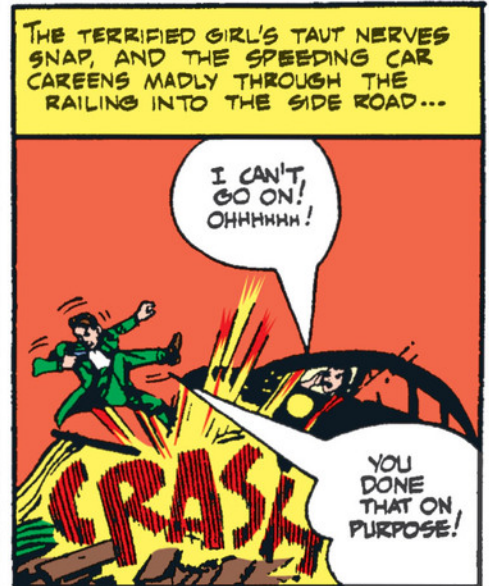
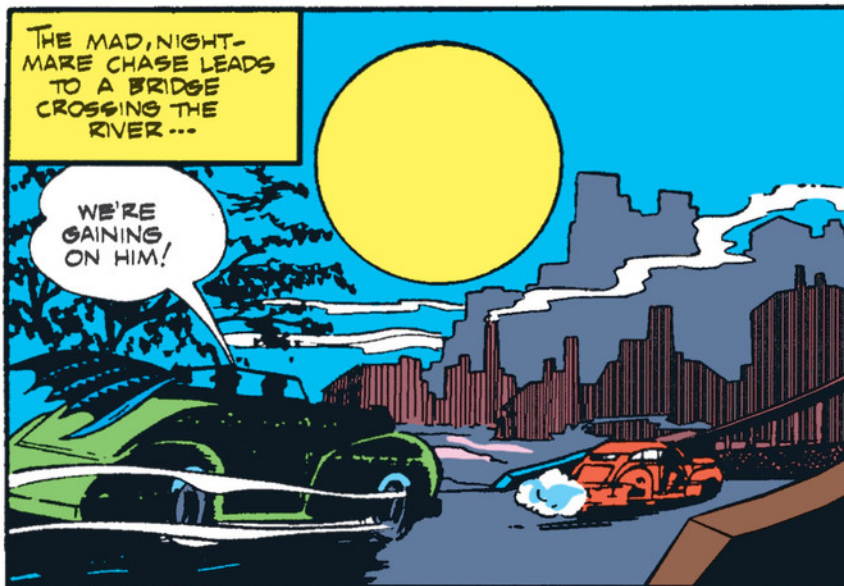
GOT TO GET OUTA HERE! EVEN IF I'VE KILLED HIM, BENSON MIGHT'VE TOLD THE COPS ABOUT THIS PLACE!



THIS TOWN'S GETTIN' TOO HOT FOR ME! I BETTER TAKE IT ON THE LAM TILL THINGS COOL DOWN!







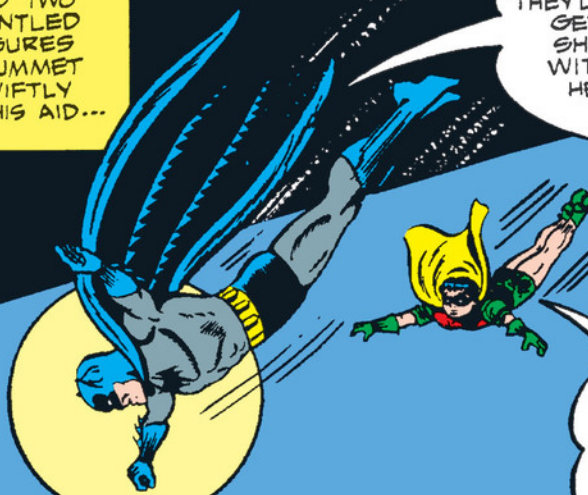
WEAKENED BY HIS WOUND, THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY STROKES FEEBLY TO THE SIDE OF THE SENSELESS DOLAN...

I'LL SAVE HIM...OR DIE TRYING!



AND TWO MANTLED FIGURES PLUMMET SWIFTLY TO HIS AID...

THEY'LL NEVER GET TO SHORE WITHOUT HELP!



THIS IS THE HIGHEST DIVE I EVER WANT TO MAKE!

BUT SUPERHUMAN EFFORT DRIVES LEE BENSON BEYOND THE LIMITS OF ORDINARY STRENGTH--

HUH? WHERE AM I? WHO'S GOT HOLD OF ME?

IT'S LEE--- YOUR OLD CHUM-- REMEMBER WHEN YOU SAVED MY LIFE?



NOW... WE'RE EVEN! I DON'T OWE YOU ANYTHING!

BUT I OWE YOU SOMETHIN', COPPER!



JOE! YOU...YOU WOULDN'T!

OH, WOULDN'T I?



YOU'RE JUST THE KIND OF GISSY THAT WOULD REMEMBER OLD TIMES! BUT ME, I'M TOUGH! I ONLY WORRY ABOUT MYSELF! AFTER THIS HITS YOU, YOU WON'T GO PUTTIN' THE BATMAN ON MY TRAIL NO MORE!

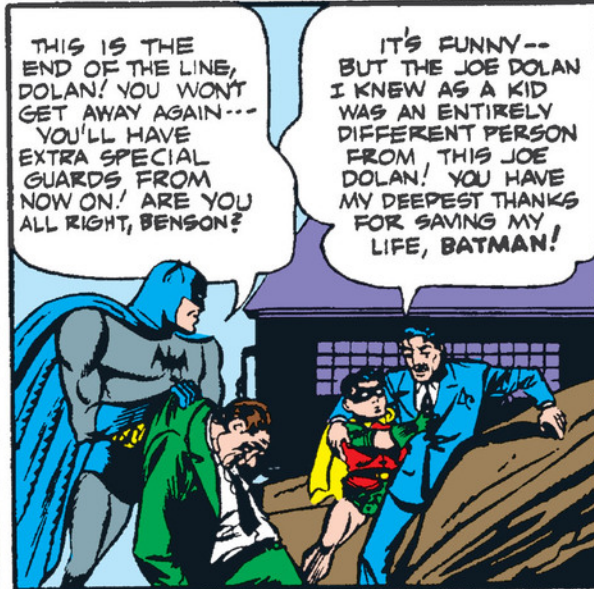


IN HIS BLIND FRENZY, THE KILLER DOES NOT SEE THE CHARGING AGENTS OF HIS DOOM--

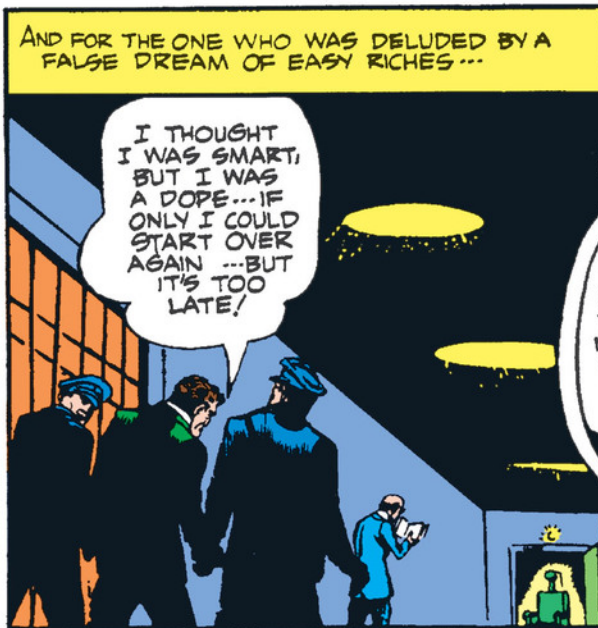
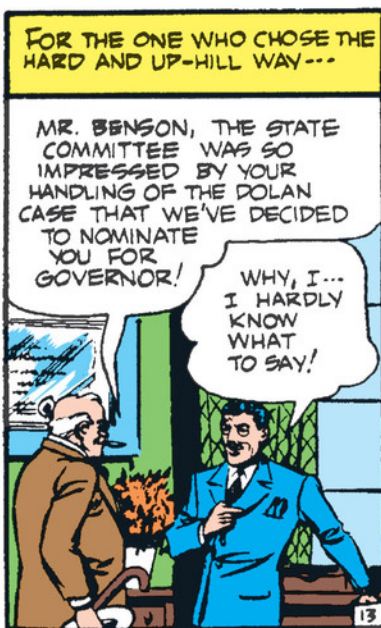
ANOTHER SECOND WILL BE TOO LATE!

MAYBE THIS PIECE OF DRIFTWOOD WILL HELP!





TWO SEPARATE PATHS---AND AT THEIR ENDS THE REWARDS THAT FATE HAS SET ASIDE FOR THE MEN WHO CHOSE TO TRAVEL THEM, OUT OF ALL THE MANY PATHS IN LIFE---



BATMAN

WITH
ROBIN
- THE BOY WONDER -

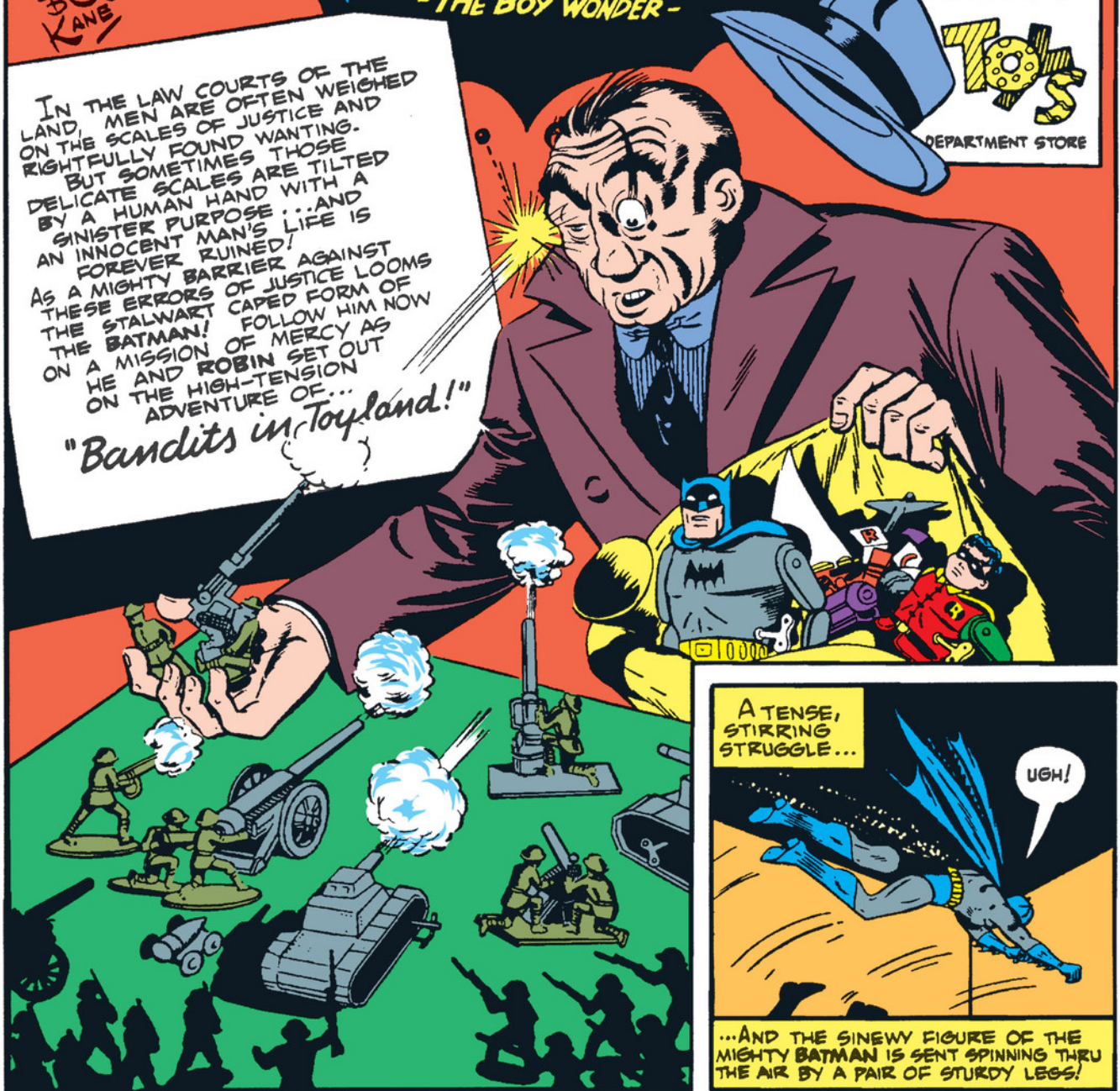
BOB
KANE

R. H. STACY'S



DEPARTMENT STORE

IN THE LAW COURTS OF THE
LAND, MEN ARE OFTEN WEIGHED
ON THE SCALES OF JUSTICE AND
RIGHTFULLY FOUND WANTING.
BUT SOMETIMES THOSE
DELICATE SCALES ARE TILTED
BY A HUMAN HAND WITH A
SINISTER PURPOSE...AND
AN INNOCENT MAN'S LIFE IS
FOREVER RUINED!
AS A MIGHTY BARRIER AGAINST
THESE ERRORS OF JUSTICE LOOMS
THE STALWART CAPED FORM OF
THE BATMAN! FOLLOW HIM NOW
ON A MISSION OF MERCY AS
HE AND ROBIN SET OUT
ON THE HIGH-TENSION
ADVENTURE OF...
"Bandits in Toyland!"



A TENSE,
STIRRING
STRUGGLE...



...AND THE SINEWY FIGURE OF THE
MIGHTY BATMAN IS SENT SPINNING THRU
THE AIR BY A PAIR OF STURDY LEGS!

BUT HIS OPPONENT IS ONLY ROBIN THE BOY WONDER...IN A WRESTLING DRILL WITH A MASTER COACH!

WELL, I BROKE THAT HOLD, BATMAN!

GOOD WORK, ROBIN! NOW LET'S TACKLE SOME OTHER EXERCISE! PRACTICE MAKES PERFECT, YOU KNOW!

YES, PRACTICE MAKES PERFECT! THAT IS THE SECRET BEHIND THE DARING DEEDS AND PHENOMENAL FEATS OF THE TWIN ROES OF CRIME!

A BRISK SHOWER, AND THE DYNAMIC DUO DRESS FOR THEIR EVERYDAY ROLES OF PLAYBOY BRUCE WAYNE AND HIS YOUNG WARD, DICK GRAYSON!

LOOK AT THOSE HEADLINES, BRUCE! SOME GANG IS ROBBING KIDS OF THEIR TOYS!

THE CHEAP CROOKS! NEXT THING THEY'LL BE STEALING PENNIES FROM BLIND MEN!

BOLD HEADLINES CONJURE UP A PUZZLING CRIME PICTURE!

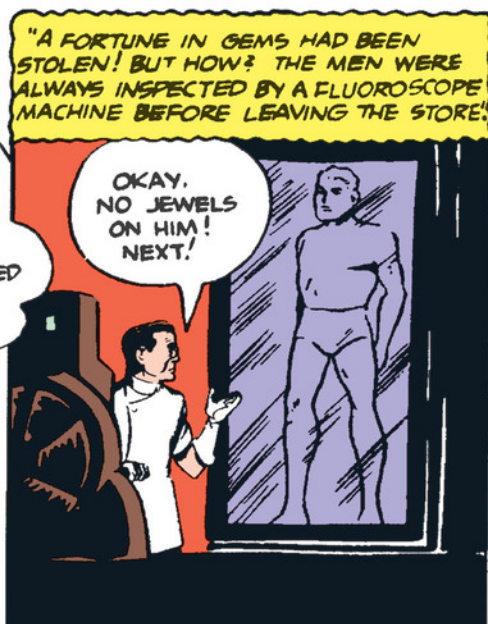
GOTHAM GAZETTE
TOY BEAR STOLEN FROM NURSERY - A MYSTERY...
NIGHT EDITION

GOTHAM GAZETTE
YOUNGSTER ROBBED OF MECHANICAL MULE
LATE EDITION

3¢
SKATING DOLL STOLEN FROM CARRIAGE

HMM...THE POLICE SAY ONE OF THOSE THUGS MIGHT BE A MEMBER OF "MUSCLES" MALONE'S GANG!

BUT WHY SHOULD A BIG SHOT LIKE "MUSCLES" BE STEALING TOYS? THAT'S NOT LIKE... WAIT A MINUTE... THERE'S THE DOOR BELL!



"A STORE DETECTIVE AND I SEARCHED THE LOCKERS WHERE THE EMPLOYEES KEPT THEIR COATS-AND IN ONE OF THEM..."

HERE ARE SOME OF THOSE JEWELS, MR. BURTON!

AHA! TOM WILLARD'S LOCKER! HE MUST HAVE BEEN ROBBING US FOR MONTHS!

OBVIOUSLY, WILLARD HID THE GEMS IN HIS JACKET DURING BUSINESS HOURS!

THANK YOU, MR. BURTON! THAT WILL BE ALL!

THAT FELLOW DOESN'T LOOK LIKE A CROOK! NICE WIFE, TOO! NO, A JOB LIKE THIS WOULD REQUIRE A CLEVER GANG OF ORGANIZED THIEVES!

SUDDENLY, BRUCE'S ATTENTION IS ATTRACTED BY A PAIR OF FAMILIAR FACES AMONG THE SPECTATORS...

PATSY DAY AND JOHNNY TEAL... MEMBERS OF "MUSCLES" MALONE'S GANG! WONDER WHAT THEY'RE JOKING ABOUT? I'LL SOON FIND OUT!

KEEN EYES EFFORTLESSLY TRANSLATE THOSE FURTIVELY MOVING MOUTHS... FOR BRUCE WAYNE... THE BATMAN... IS AN ACCOMPLISHED LIP-READER!

SAY, JOHNNY, THAT WILLARD KID LOOKS HOOKED, DON'T HE?

YEAH, THE BIG BOSS FRAMED HIM GOOD!

SO MY HUNCH IS RIGHT! BUT HOW CAN I PREVENT THE LAW FROM MAKING A GRAVE ERROR?

LATER, IN THE JURY ROOM, TWELVE GOOD MEN AND TRUE DECIDE THE FATE OF A FELLOW MAN!

THE THIRD BALLOT... AND IT'S STILL ELEVEN FOR GUILTY AND ONE AGAINST! GENTLEMEN, WE CAN'T GO HOME UNTIL WE REACH A VERDICT. WHO'S HOLDING OUT?

I AM! I THINK WILLARD WAS FRAMED! HOW COULD HE HAVE MANAGED TO SNEAK ALL THOSE GEMS OUT OF THE STORE?

THE ARGUMENT WAXES FURIOUSLY UNTIL DUSK!

TIME FOR DINNER, GENTLEMEN! THEN YOU'LL HAVE TO BE LOCKED UP FOR THE NIGHT AT A HOTEL!

ALL WAYNE'S FAULT! WE'RE KEPT AWAY FROM OUR FAMILIES, JUST BECAUSE HE'S STUBBORN!

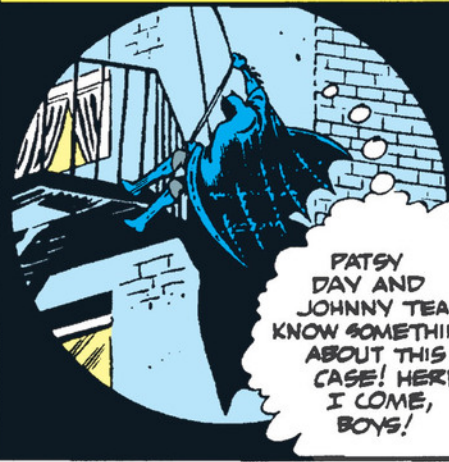
HMPH! A LOT THESE WEALTHY PLAYBOYS KNOW ABOUT LAW!

THAT NIGHT, AT BRUCE WAYNE'S HOTEL ROOM...

WHEW! THOSE FELLOWS THINK I'M CRAZY! BUT THAT MAN'S INNOCENT, I KNOW! AND I ONLY HAVE UNTIL MORNING TO PROVE IT!



MINUTES LATER, A MANTLED FIGURE SWINGS OUT INTO THE NIGHT ON AN ERRAND OF JUSTICE—THE BATMAN!



PATSY DAY AND JOHNNY TEAL KNOW SOMETHING ABOUT THIS CASE! HERE I COME, BOYS!

MEANWHILE, YOUNG ROBIN BECOMES RESTLESS...

THAT'S ENOUGH STUDYING! I'M GOING OUT TO SEE WHAT "MUSCLES" MALONE HAS TO DO WITH THOSE TOY ROBBERIES! WON'T BRUCE BE SURPRISED IF I SOLVE THIS CASE MYSELF!



AT MALONE'S HEAD-QUARTERS...

C'MON, GUYS! FIRST STOP'S THE VAN COURTLEY HOME!

AH! THERE THEY ARE! I'LL TRAIL THEM IN THE BATMOBILE!



LATER... AT THE VAN COURTLEY RESIDENCE...

THERE'S A TOY AROUND HERE THAT I WANT... A LITTLE TANK! WHERE IS IT?

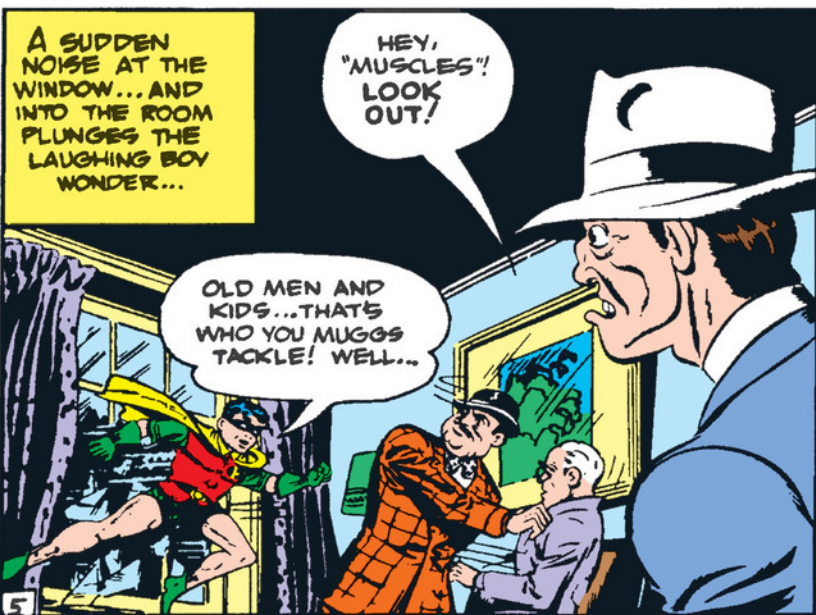
I DON'T KNOW! I'M THE BUTLER—THE FAMILY IS OUT. I...I BELIEVE THE TOY YOU MENTION WAS LEFT AT THE PLAYGROUND NEARBY!



A SUDDEN NOISE AT THE WINDOW... AND INTO THE ROOM PLUNGES THE LAUGHING BOY WONDER...

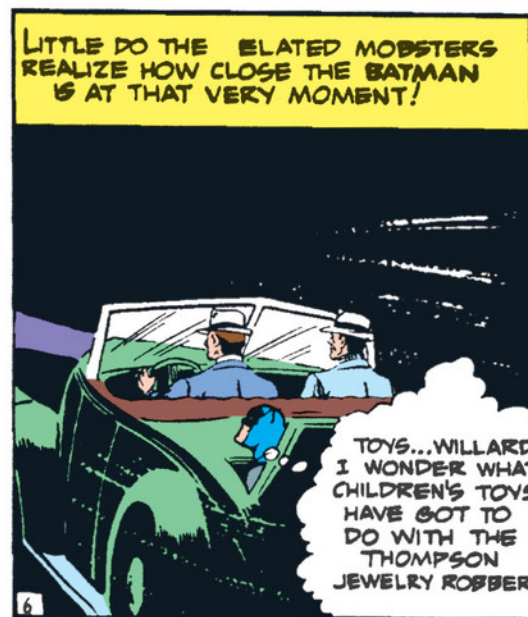
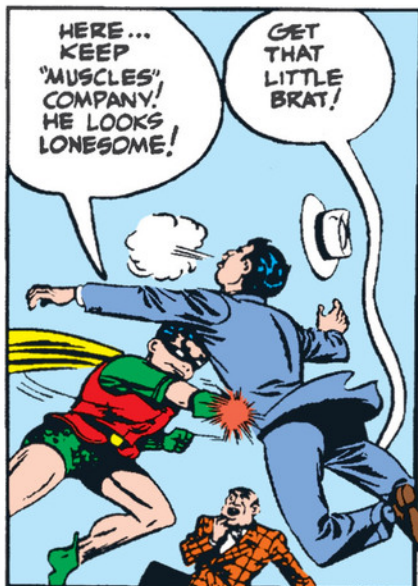
HEY, "MUSCLES"! LOOK OUT!

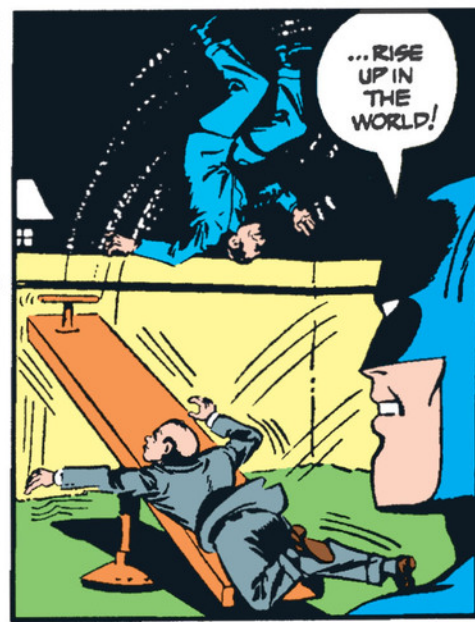
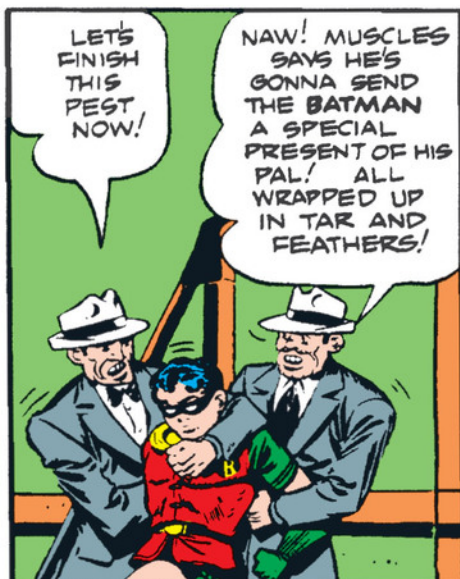
OLD MEN AND KIDS... THAT'S WHO YOU MUGGS TACKLE! WELL...

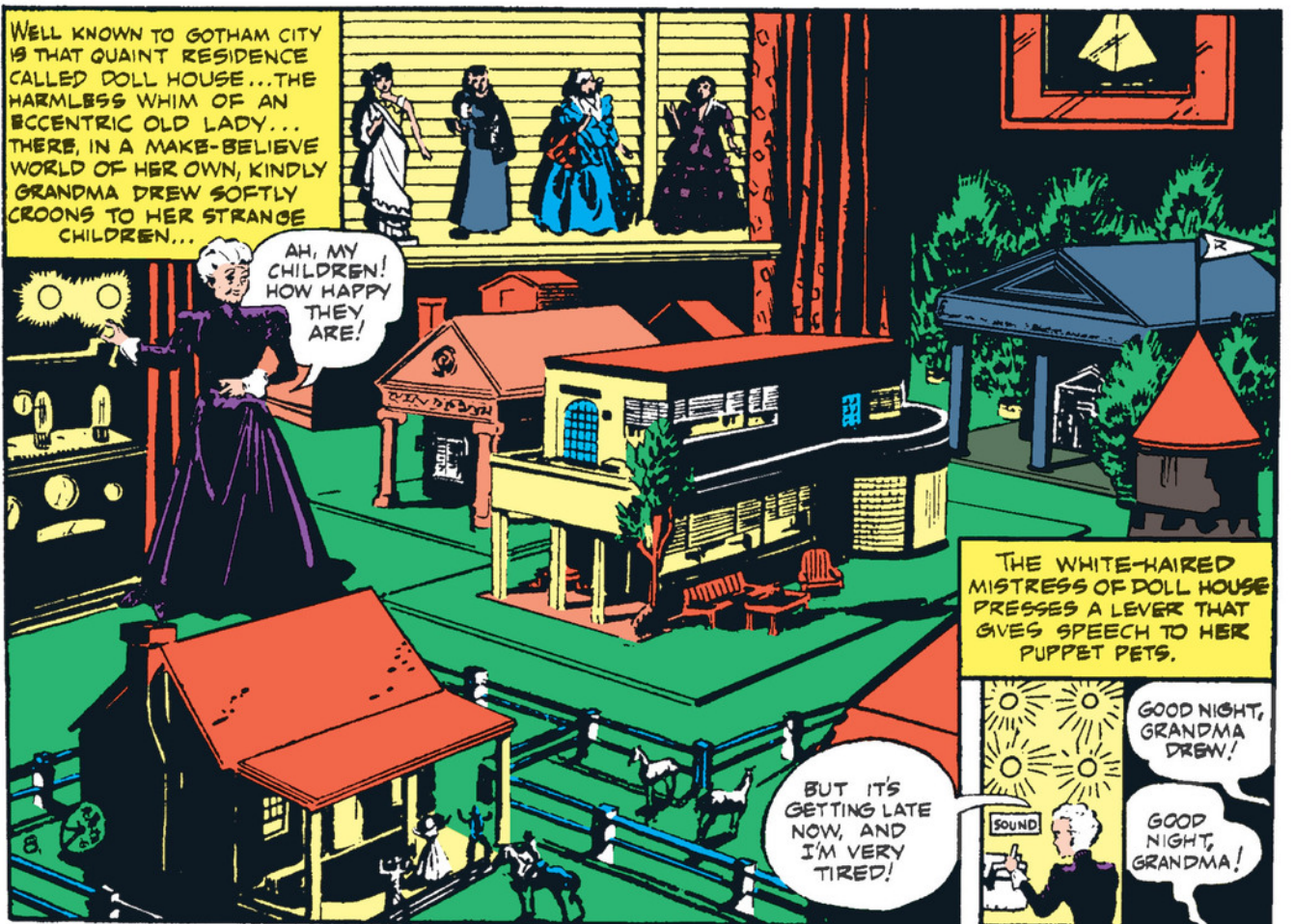
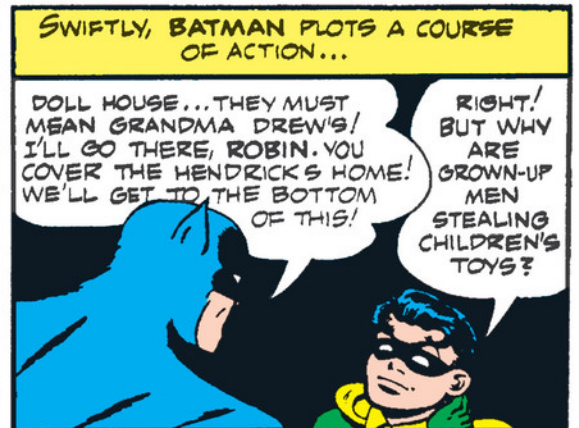
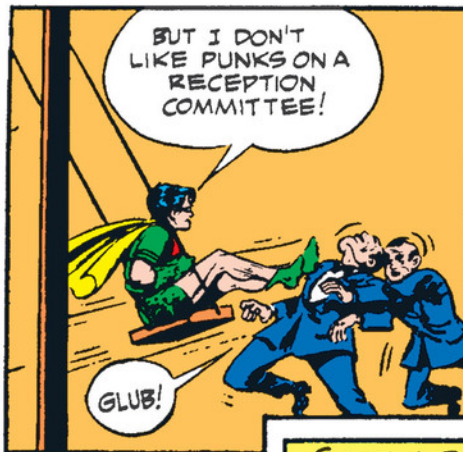
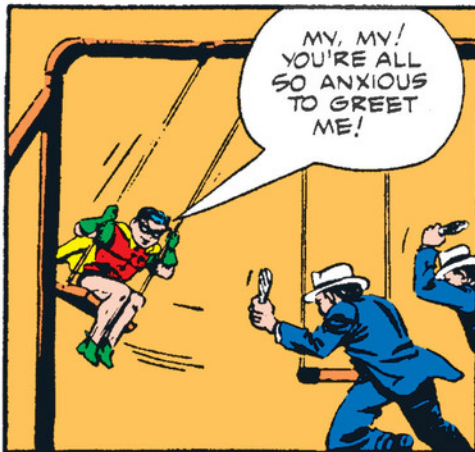


...HOW DO YOU LIKE THIS LITTLE BOY?



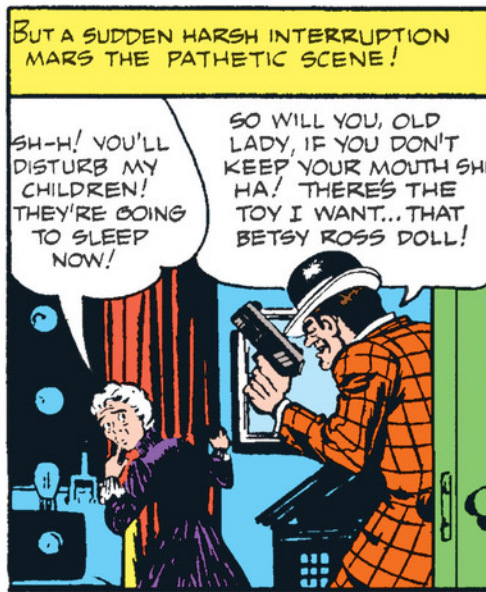








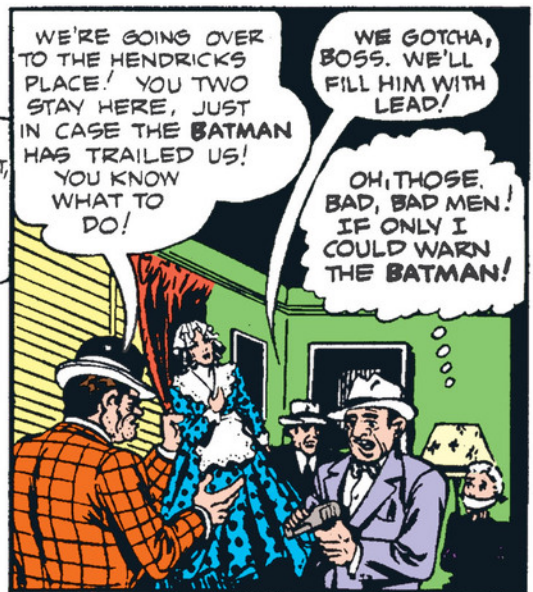
GOOD NIGHT, MY LITTLE ONES. AND NOW I'LL TURN OUT THE LIGHTS!



BUT A SUDDEN HARSH INTERRUPTION MARS THE PATHETIC SCENE!

SH-H! YOU'LL DISTURB MY CHILDREN! THEY'RE GOING TO SLEEP NOW!

SO WILL YOU, OLD LADY, IF YOU DON'T KEEP YOUR MOUTH SHUT, HA! THERES THE TOY I WANT... THAT BETSY ROSS DOLL!



WE'RE GOING OVER TO THE HENDRICKS PLACE! YOU TWO STAY HERE, JUST IN CASE THE BATMAN HAS TRAILED US! YOU KNOW WHAT TO DO!

WE GOTCHA, BOSS. WE'LL FILL HIM WITH LEAD!

OH, THOSE BAD, BAD MEN! IF ONLY I COULD WARN THE BATMAN!



PRESENTLY, A SHADOWY FIGURE GLIDES UNSUSPECTINGLY TOWARD THE DOOR OF THE DOLL ROOM!

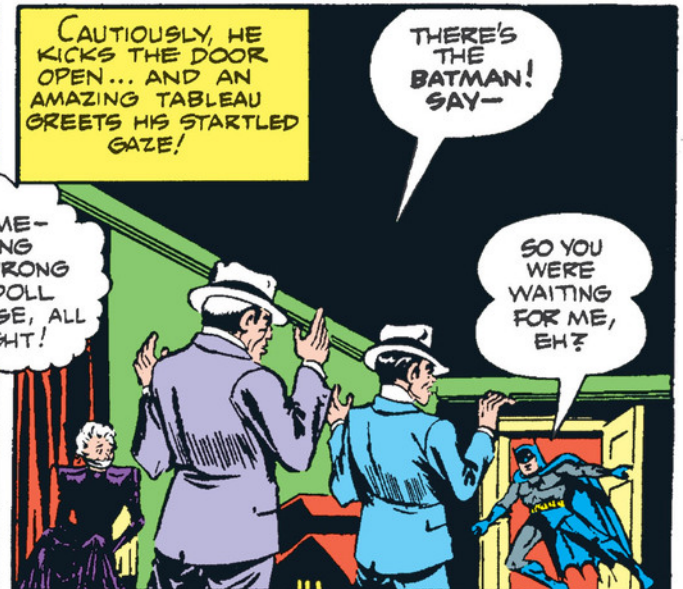
THAT'S FUNNY... EVERYTHING'S SO QUIET! MAYBE "MUSCLES" DIDN'T COME HERE YET!



ABRUPTLY, A GRIM COMMAND BARKS OUT FROM BEYOND THE DOOR.

HANDS UP!

SOME-THING IS WRONG IN DOLL HOUSE, ALL RIGHT!



CAUTIOUSLY, HE KICKS THE DOOR OPEN... AND AN AMAZING TABLEAU GREET'S HIS STARTLED GAZE!

THERE'S THE BATMAN! SAY—

SO YOU WERE WAITING FOR ME, EH?



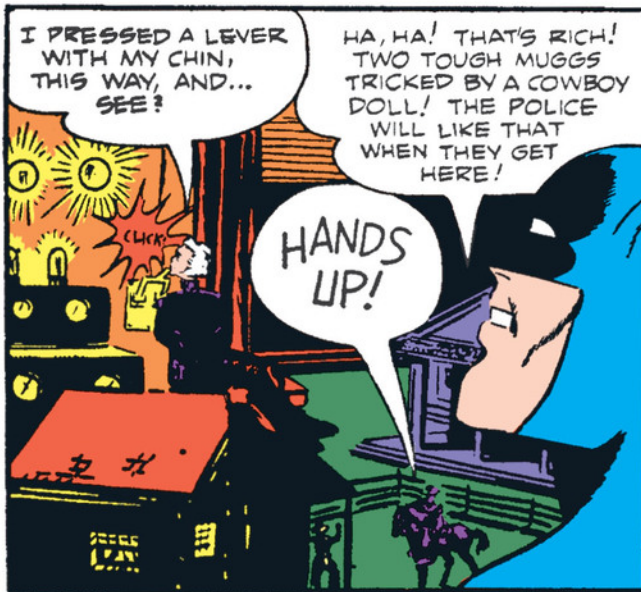
HEADS... YOU LOSE!

CRACK!



THERE, THERE, GRANDMA DREW... EVERYTHING'S ALL RIGHT NOW. BUT WHO CALLED OUT "HANDS UP!" AND MADE THEM DROP THEIR GUNS? YOU WERE TIED AND GAGGED!

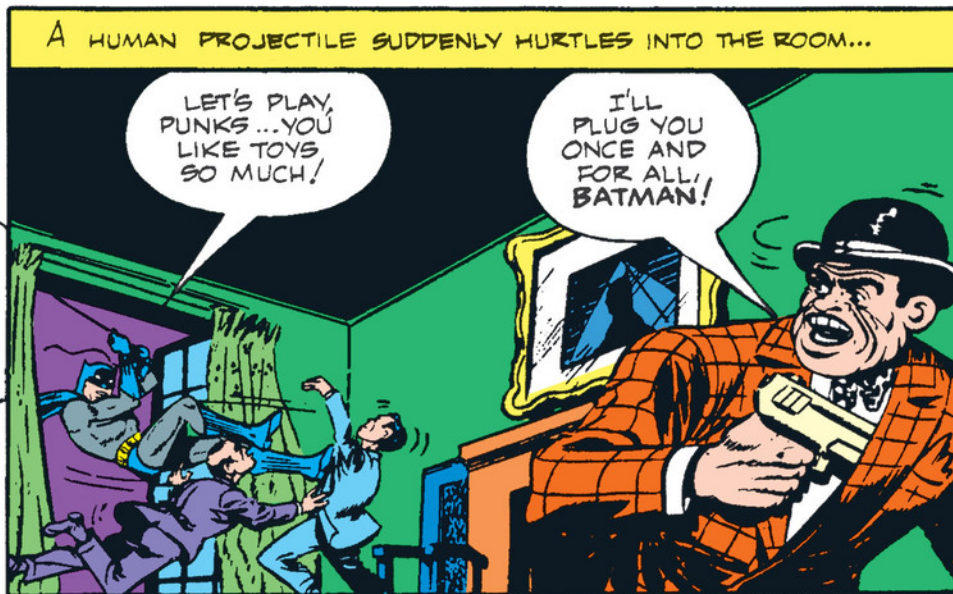
OH, I DIDN'T DO THAT! ONE OF MY CHILDREN DID!





COME ON KID, TALK! WHERE'S THAT TOY SUBMARINE YOUR FATHER BOUGHT YOU?

OUCH! YOU'RE HURTING ME! IT...IT WAS RETURNED TO THE STORE BECAUSE IT DIDN'T WORK!



LET'S PLAY, PUNKS...YOU LIKE TOYS SO MUCH!

I'LL PLUG YOU ONCE AND FOR ALL, BATMAN!

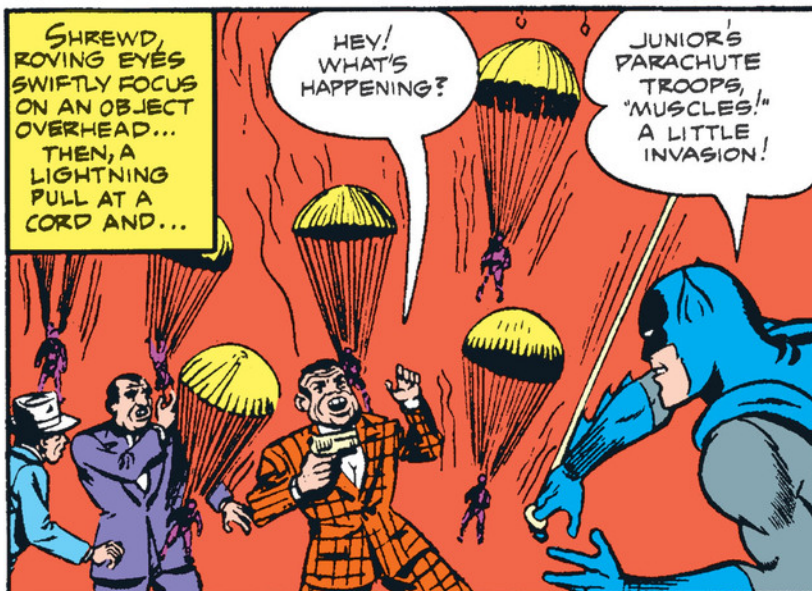


AND JUST THEN, BY AN UNLUCKY TWIST OF FATE, THE VALIANT CRIME-FIGHTER SKIDS OVER A TOY...

ONE BULLET... AND YOU'RE THROUGH!

I'VE GOT TO DO SOMETHING, QUICK!

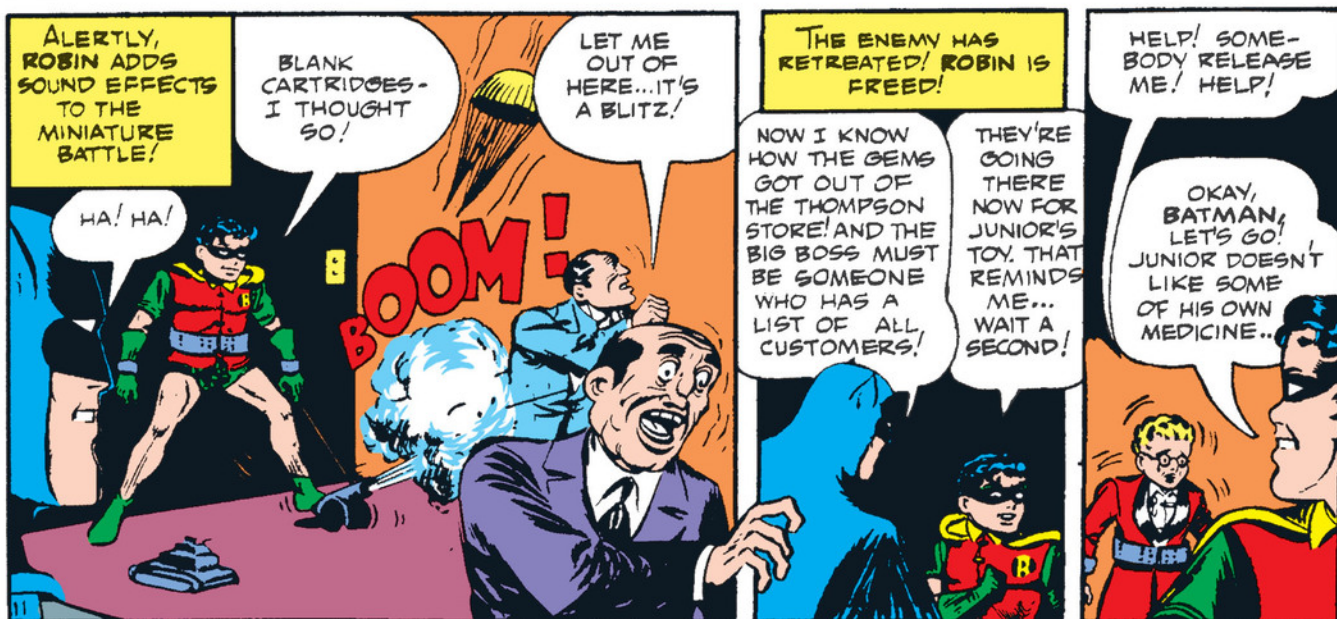
...AND STARES INTO THE YAWNING MOUTH OF DEATH!



SHREWD, ROVING EYES SWIFTLY FOCUS ON AN OBJECT OVERHEAD... THEN, A LIGHTNING PULL AT A CORD AND...

HEY! WHAT'S HAPPENING?

JUNIOR'S PARACHUTE TROOPS, "MUSCLES!" A LITTLE INVASION!



ALERTLY, ROBIN ADDS SOUND EFFECTS TO THE MINIATURE BATTLE!

BLANK CARTRIDGES - I THOUGHT SO!

LET ME OUT OF HERE...IT'S A BLITZ!

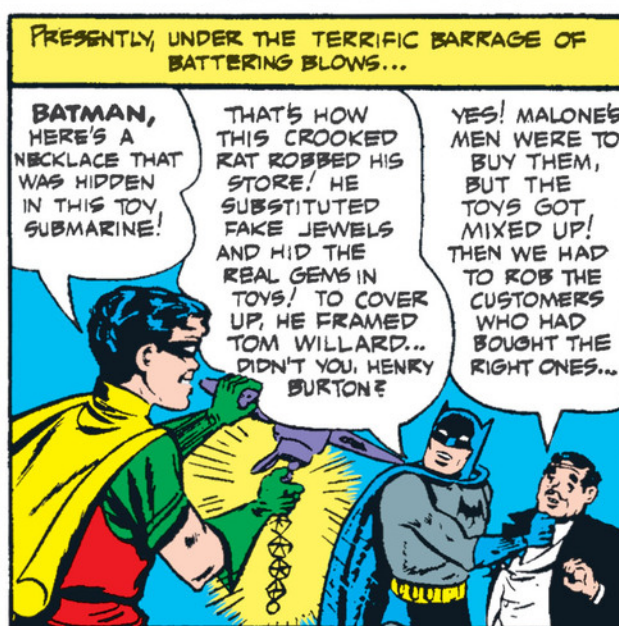
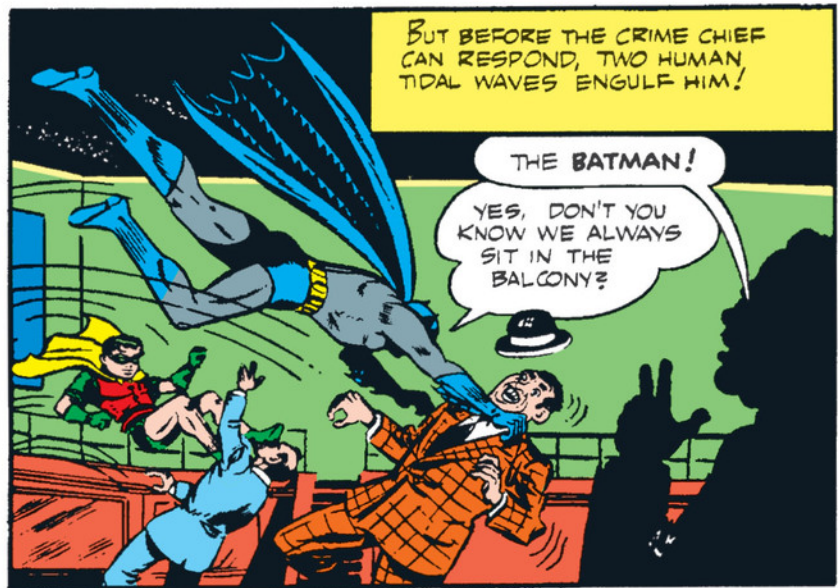
THE ENEMY HAS RETREATED! ROBIN IS FREED!

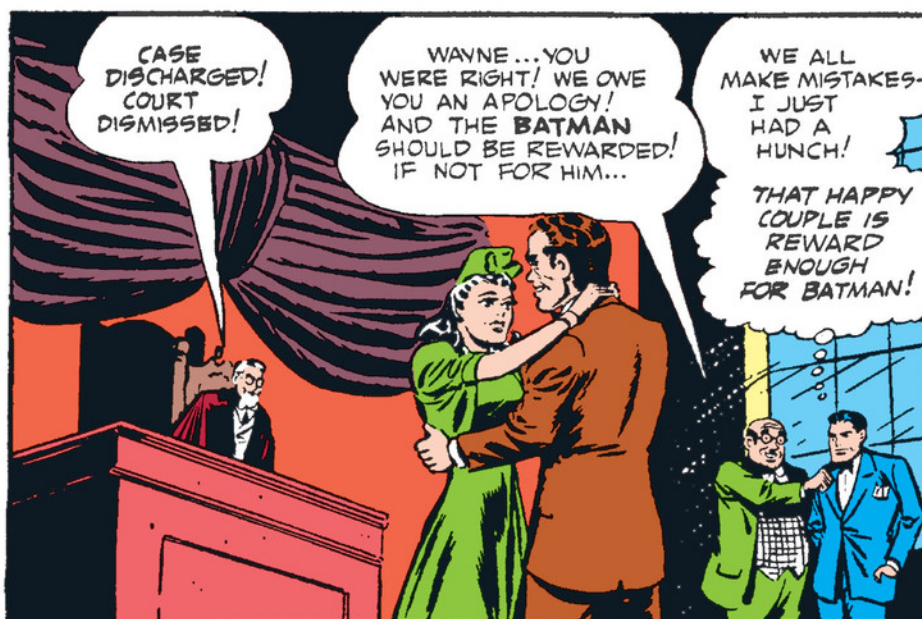
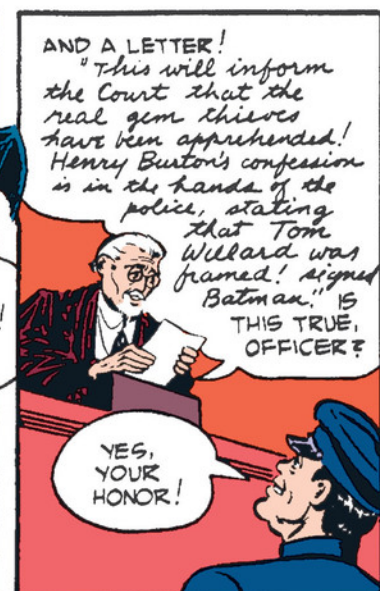
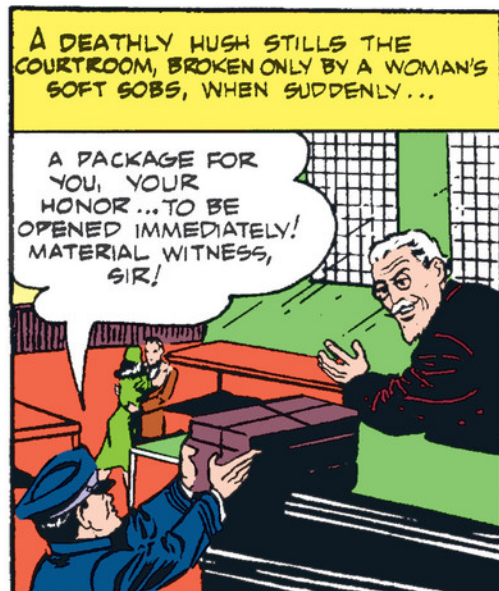
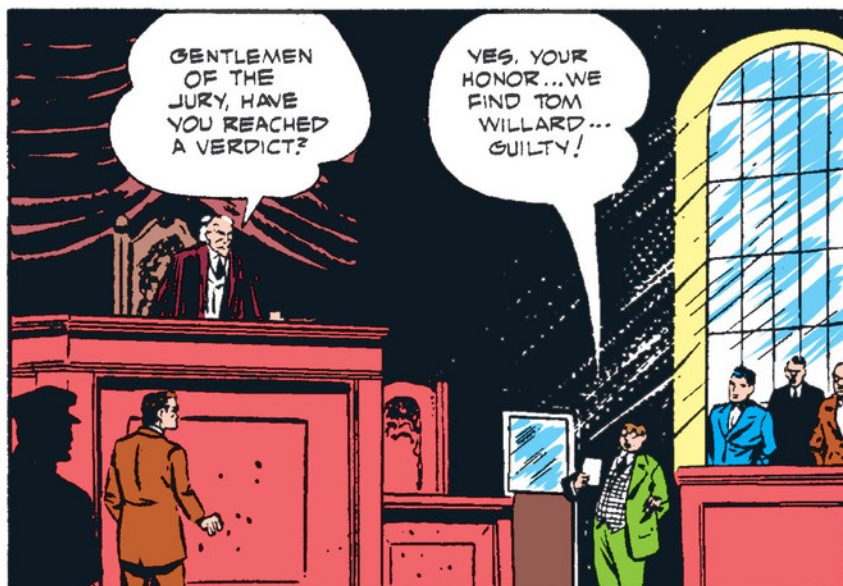
HELP! SOMEBODY RELEASE ME! HELP!

NOW I KNOW HOW THE GEMS GOT OUT OF THE THOMPSON STORE! AND THE BIG BOSS MUST BE SOMEONE WHO HAS A LIST OF ALL CUSTOMERS!

THEY'RE GOING THERE NOW FOR JUNIOR'S TOY. THAT REMINDS ME... WAIT A SECOND!

OKAY, BATMAN, LET'S GO! JUNIOR DOESN'T LIKE SOME OF HIS OWN MEDICINE...

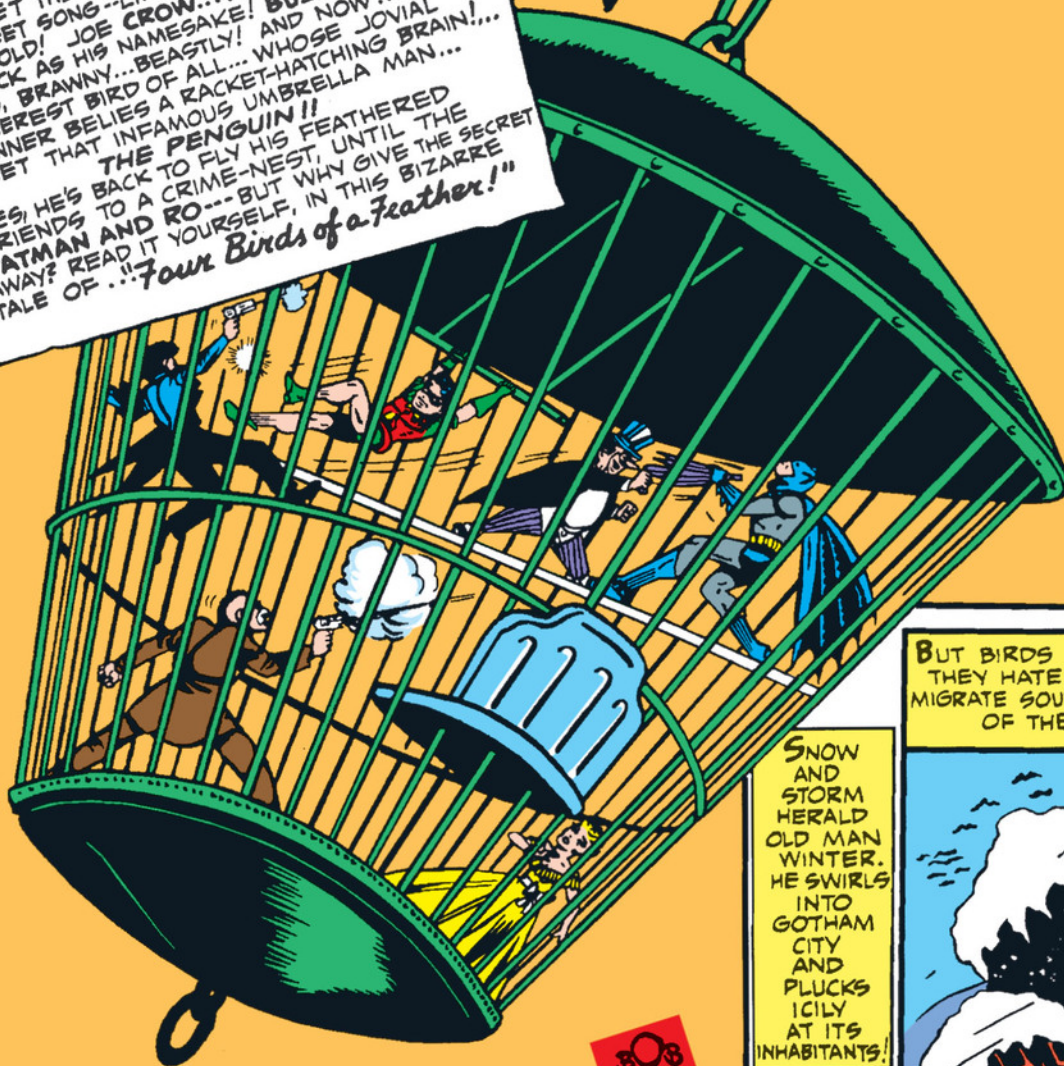




BATMAN

WITH
ROBIN

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN CRIME
MEET THE CANARY?...
SWEET SONG--LIKE THE SCHEMING SIRENS
OF OLD! JOE CROW...WHOSE HEART IS AS
BLACK AS HIS NAMESAKE! BUZZARD BENNY...
BIG, BRAUNY...BEASTLY! AND NOW... THE
QUEEREST BIRD OF ALL... WHOSE JOVIAL
MANNER BELIES A RACKET-HATCHING BRAIN...
MEET THAT INFAMOUS UMBRELLA MAN...
THE PENGUIN!!
YES, HE'S BACK TO FLY HIS FEATHERED
FRIENDS TO A CRIME-NEST, UNTIL THE
BATMAN AND RO---BUT WHY GIVE THE SECRET
AWAY? READ IT YOURSELF, IN THIS BIZARRE
TALE OF... *Four Birds of a Feather!*



BUT BIRDS DO NOT STAY...
THEY HATE THE COLD AND
MIGRATE SOUTHWARD IN QUEST
OF THE SUN...

SNOW
AND
STORM
HERALD
OLD MAN
WINTER.
HE SWIRLS
INTO
GOTHAM
CITY
AND
PLUCKS
ICILY
AT ITS
INHABITANTS!



BOB
KANE

OTHER "BIRDS", TOO, THINK OF THE WARM SOUTHLAND... BIRDS OF PREY... HUMAN VULTURES!

BUZZARD, THE NIGHT-CLUB BUSINESS IS DEAD!

YEAH, CROW! THE CANARY, HERE, AIN'T EVEN GOT ONE CUSTOMER TO SING TO!

LET'S SHAKE THIS TOWN AND GO SOUTH... FLORIDA! THE TOURIST TRADE DOWN THERE IS FULL OF CHUMPS!

NOW WE MEET ANOTHER "BIRD", WHOSE WADDLING GAIT AND CHERUBIC FACE MASKS EVIL PURPOSE... THE PENGUIN!

REAL PENGUINS RELISH THE COLD, BUT NOT I! JOVE... A CAR! HO, THERE! HALT!

SHADES OF SHELLEY, BUT THIS IS DELIGHTFUL! MY OLD COMPATRIOTS THE EVER-LOVELY CANARY, JOE CROW AND BUZZARD BENNY!

THE PENGUIN! HOP IN! WE'RE DRIVIN' DOWN SOUTH!

WE HEARD THE BATMAN WAS ON YOUR TAIL!

THE BATMAN! HE'LL FIND IT HARD TO PUT SALT ON MY TAIL... HA, HA!

WE WANT TO OPEN A NIGHT CLUB IN FLORIDA, WITH GAMBLING AS THE REAL RACKET! ONLY WE NEED MORE DOUGH TO GET STARTED!

THEN BEHOLD YOUR NEW PARTNER! THE PROCEEDS OF MY LAST ESCAPE... THE HOBOS' "JUNGLE" AFFAIR!

THE PENGUIN'S TWISTED BUT FERTILE BRAIN CONCOCTS A CLEVER PLAN!

WE'LL BE ON EASY STREET... FOUR BIRDS OF A FEATHER! A CANARY, A CROW, A BUZZARD AND ARUMPH... A PENGUIN!

A FIRST-CLASS RACKET!

FLORIDA! TO THIS WINTER VACATIONLAND FLOCK PEOPLE OF THE NORTH, BUT TO IT ALSO SWARM HUMAN VULTURES...

THE RACE-TRACK TOUT, THE GAMBLER, THE GUNMAN, THE RACKETEER!

BEYOND MIAMI'S SHORE RIDES A SMALL YACHT! IT'S TWO-MAN CREW, BRUCE WAYNE AND DICK GRAYSON!

WHY THE COSTUME? WE'RE ON A VACATION!

RATS GO EVERYWHERE, SO WE'VE GOT TO BE PREPARED... JUST IN CASE!

SUDDENLY...A CRY FOR HELP!

LOOK! THAT GIRL SWAM TOO FAR OUT AND SHE'S IN DANGER!

H-E-L-P

I DON'T LIKE THE LOOKS OF THOSE TENTACLES!

A SCANT INSTANT FOR A SWITCH OF GARB-AND NOW IT IS THE BATMAN WHO WHIPS OVER-SIDE...

WOW! THIS ISN'T GOING TO BE A PICNIC!

DOWN THROUGH SHIMMERING WATER HE SWIMS...BLADE POISED FOR UNDERSEA BATTLE WITH THAT DEMON OF THE DEEP... A GIANT SQUID!

A SINGLE SLASH FREES THE MONSTER'S CAPTIVE!

BUT ONE OF THE NIGHT-MARE CREATURE'S ARMS SNAKES LIGHTLY ABOUT THE BATMAN!

OH-OH! THIS BABY LIKES ME SO MUCH HE WANTS TO HUG ME TO DEATH!

VICIOUSLY, THE CRUEL, PARROT-LIKE BEAK OF THE WATER BEAST SNAPS AT THE CLOAKED FIGHTER!

NEED AIR... AND THIS FELLA...ISN'T FOOLING! BETTER MAKE IT FAST...

THE BLADE BITES DEEP INTO A BALEFUL EYE... AND INSTINCTIVELY THE SQUID SQUIRTS FORTH A STREAM OF INKY FLUID!

THANKS, BUD. THAT MAKES IT ALL THE EASIER FOR US BOTH TO GET AWAY!

LATER, WHEN THE GRATEFUL GIRL REGAINS HER STRENGTH ON A NEARBY FLOAT...

BATMAN! WAIT!...I WANT TO THANK YOU FOR SAVING MY LIFE!

JOT IT DOWN IN YOUR MEMO BOOK UNDER "THINGS TO REMEMBER!" SEE YOU AGAIN SOME TIME!

THE CANARY LOOSES A BOMBHELL IN HER CRONIES' MIDST...

I SAW YOUR OLD FRIEND THE BATMAN TODAY, PENGUIN!

WHAT? HIM HERE? ...IN FLORIDA!

SHE TELLS OF HER TIMELY RESCUE BY THE BATMAN.

JUST 'CAUSE HE PULLED THAT "HERO" STUNT, DON'T START GETTING ANY IDEAS ABOUT HIM!

HERE! LET US FORGET THE BATMAN AND CONCENTRATE ON OUR BUSINESS VENTURE!

YOU CAN'T STOP ME FROM DREAMING!

BUSINESS BEGINS! THE BIRD HOUSE OPENS!

LOOKING FOR SOME SPORT, SIR? FREE TAXI SERVICE TO THE BIRD HOUSE - A NEW GAMBLING PLACE WHERE YOU GET A SQUARE DEAL!

THE HOST GREETS THE PLAYERS -

NOTICE... GLASS TABLES! YOU CAN SEE THROUGH THEM. NO WIRES, NO CROOKED MECHANISM! HERE A SPORTSMAN IS GIVEN AN EVEN CHANCE!

SOON THE AUTHORITIES INVESTIGATE THE NEW PHENOMENON...AN HONEST GAMBLING HOUSE!

YOUR BOOKS SHOW HARDLY ANY PROFIT AT ALL!

TOO TRUE! WHAT LITTLE WE WIN FROM THE SMALL PLAYERS IS LOST WHEN ONE OR TWO INDIVIDUALS MAKE A BIG KILL!

ONLY LAST WEEK, A MAN WON OVER \$10,000! THAT'S WHERE OUR PROFIT GOES! GOOD THING WE HAVE THE NIGHT CLUB TO KEEP US GOING!

BUT WHEN THE POLICE LEAVE, THE TRUE TALE OF TREACHERY IS REVEALED...

HEE-HEE! I DO BELIEVE THEY FELT SORRY FOR US! WELL... TO WORK AGAIN! IT IS TIME WE MADE A PROFIT!

I GOT A STUPID-LOOKING SAP ALL PICKED OUT!

SHORTLY AFTERWARD, AN UNBELIEVING VICTIM FINDS HIMSELF A BIG WINNER AT ROULETTE...

G-GOLLY! JUST LOOK AT ALL THIS MONEY!

EGAD, SIR... TOO MUCH MONEY INVITES THIEVERY! CABBY, SEE THIS GENTLEMAN AND HIS WINNINGS... AH... SAFELY TO HIS HOTEL!

BUT ON A DARK ROAD...

THANKS, PAL! TELL MY BOSS I'M RETIRIN' FROM HACKING... AS OF RIGHT NOW!

OH... M...MY WINNINGS!

LATER...

HERE'S HIS ROLL! JOB WAS AS CLEAN AS A WHISTLE!

YOU CERTAINLY GIVE THE CUSTOMERS A BREAK...OR SHOULD I SAY, BROKE?

SPLendid, BUZZARD, SPLendid!

BUT, MY CHICKADEE, DON'T OUR GLASS TABLES SHOW OUR...AH...HONESTY? AND THERE ARE ALWAYS WINNERS!

HAW! CAN WE HELP IT IF THOSE WINNERS ARE ROBBED... BY OUR MEN? HAW! WHAT A WISE OWL YOU ARE! HAW!

STILL LATER...THE PENGUIN GETS A PHONE CALL...

THE TAXI-DRIVER... A THIEF? I SHALL NOTIFY THE POLICE! MEANWHILE, THE BIRD HOUSE WILL COMPENSATE YOUR LOSS WITH A GIFT OF \$500!

SAY... THAT'S DARNED DECENT OF YOU!

AND SO, BY MANY SUCH WILY TRICKS, THE FLEEING FLOCK FLIES HIGH-UNTIL ONE NIGHT...

ONE OF THE PENGUIN'S CAB-DRIVERS FINDS A NEW CUSTOMER-BRUCE WAYNE!

HOW ABOUT SOME SPORT AT AN HONEST GAMBLING CLUB... THE BIRD HOUSE?

WHY...ER-YES!

I'VE WANTED TO TAKE A LOOK AT THOSE GLASS TABLES I'VE HEARD SO MUCH ABOUT!

THE BIRD HOUSE FRONT... A NIGHT CLUB!

OH, I WANT TO FLY...RIGHT INTO YOUR ARMS!...

WELL, FAN ME WITH A CROWBAR! THE BATHING BEAUTY I SAVED FROM THE SQUID! BUT, BUSINESS BEFORE PLEASURE!

THE REAR... THE GAMBLING ROOMS!

THAT'S BRUCE WAYNE, THE SOCIETY PLAYBOY!

YEAH! HASN'T GOT A BRAIN IN HIS HEAD!

HMM! GLASS TABLE... BUT METAL MOLDING! I'VE A HUNCH...

SECRETLY, HE DROPS A PIN TO THE TABLE! AS THE ROULETTE WHEEL BALL TUMBLES INTO A SLOT, THE PIN PACES ITS SWING...

...SEEMS DRAWN BY AN INVISIBLE FORCE... SLIDES ALONG TO THE TABLE'S MOLDING EDGE... AND STICKS THERE!

VERY CLEVER!
ELECTRO-MAGNETS IN THE
MOLDING! THE STEEL
BALL IS DRAWN INTO
THE ROULETTE SLOT,
DIRECTLY IN LINE WITH
THE MAGNET THAT THE
CROUPIER SENDS
CURRENT THROUGH!

GOT A NEW
CLUCK
PICKED OUT
TONIGHT!
BRUCE WAYNE,
A PLAYBOY.
YOU KNOW
THE KIND...
PLENTY OF
MONEY BUT
SHORT ON
BRAINS!

SOUNDS
FASCINATING.
THINK I'LL
TODDLE ALONG,
TOO, AND
WATCH YOU...
AH...TAKE
HIM!

AFTER A WONDERING BRUCE NOTES THAT
THE CROUPIER PERMITS HIM TO WIN
A LARGE SUM...

MR. WAYNE,
THE HOUSE WOULD
LIKE YOUR
ADDRESS...FOR
THE RECORD OF
YOUR WINNINGS,
OF COURSE!

WELL, WELL!
BUZZARD BENNY
AND JOE CROW-
THESE BIRDS
BODE NO GOOD!
I'LL GIVE THEM
THE ADDRESS OF
MY TEMPORARY
ROOM IN
TOWN!

BRUCE MAKES A HASTY CALL
TO DICK GRAYSON...

...AND THEY
PROBABLY
WANT TO
LIFT MY
WINNINGS!

THEY
WANTED
YOUR ADDRESS
SO THEY
CAN BEAT
YOU HOME
AND WAIT
FOR YOU!
NICE
PEOPLE!

LATER...
FROM THE
BROODING
SHADOWS
OF BRUCE'S
PENTHOUSE...

REACH
FOR A
CLOUD,
CHUM!

Y...
YES,
SIR!

THEN, FLASHING
FROM
CONCEALMENT,
COMES A
CATAPULTING,
COLORFUL
FIGURE...
ROBIN!

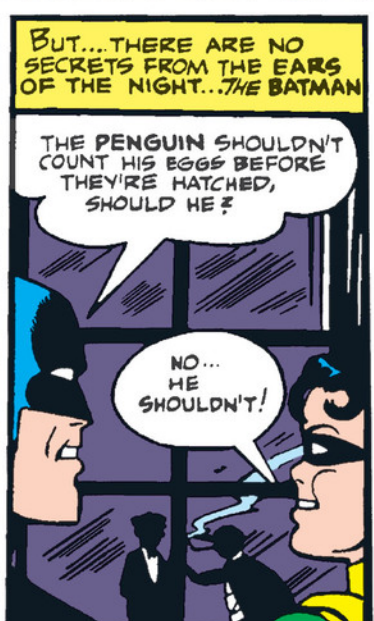
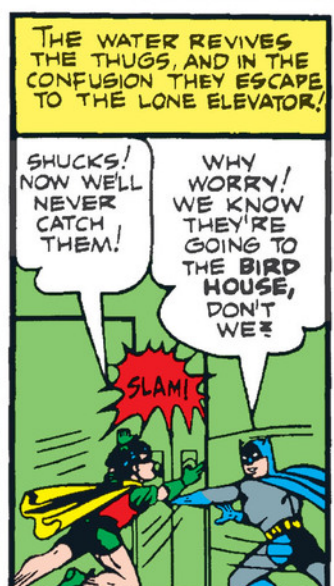
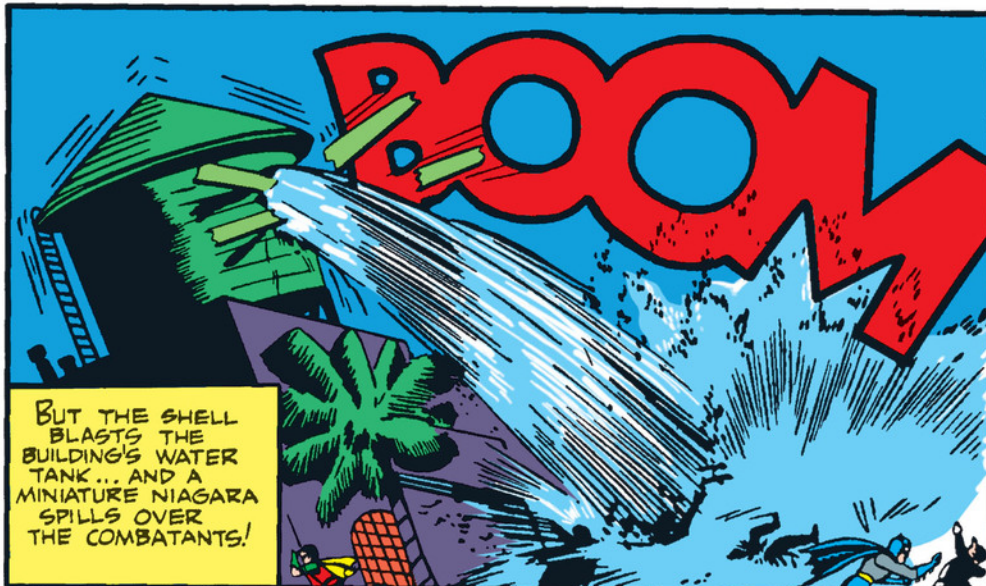
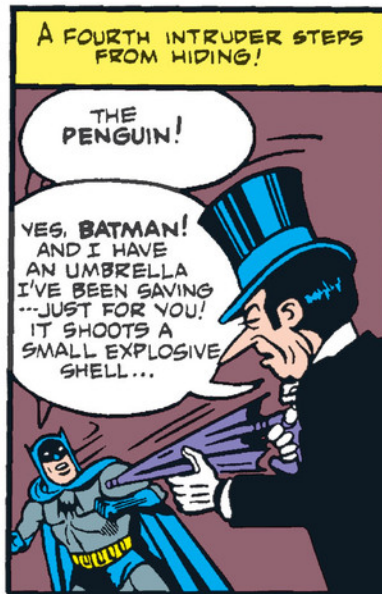
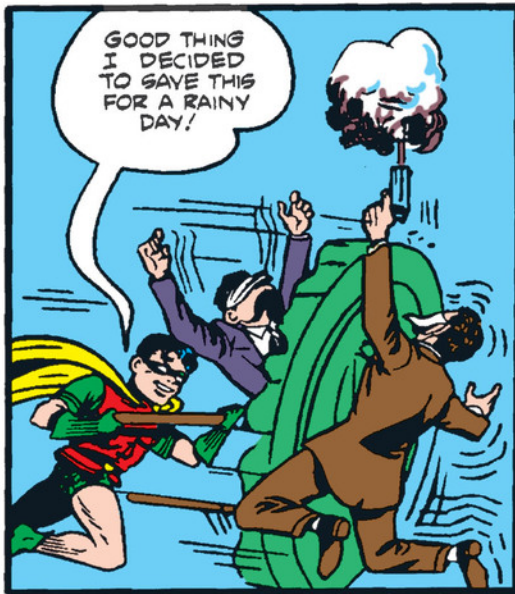
I'M GOING
INSIDE
TO PHONE
THE
POLICE!

SURPRISED?

A SPLIT-SECOND DISCARD OF
OUTER CLOTHING...AND THE
BATMAN CRASHES THE FRAY!

GOT TO KEEP MY
IDENTITY A SECRET,
SO...

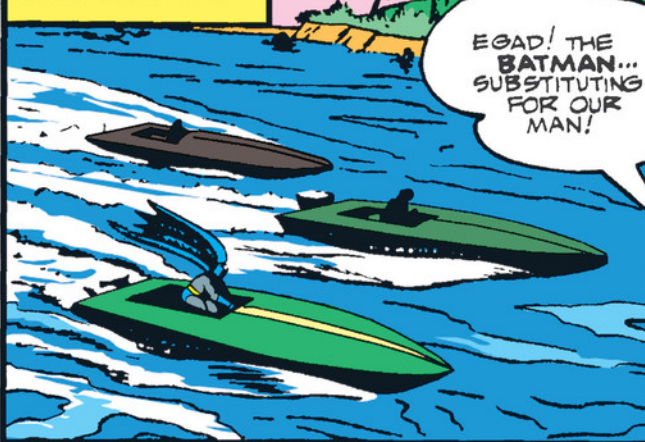
DON'T PHONE THE
POLICE, MR. WAYNE!
ROBIN AND I SPOTTED
THESE RATS PROWLING
ABOUT AND WE CLAIM THE
PRIVILEGE OF THE FIGHT!



THE DAY OF THE OUTBOARD STEEPLECHASE RACE THAT A CERTAIN DRIVER IS DESTINED NEVER TO SEE!



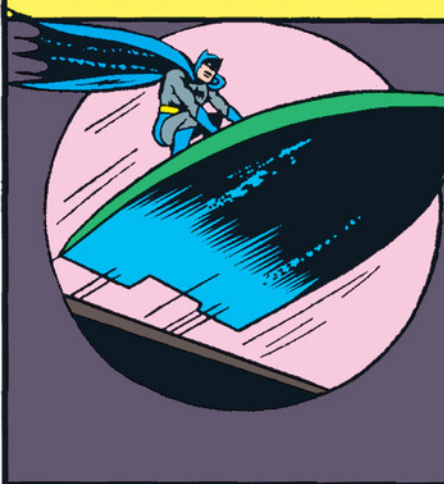
LATER...THE BOATS JOCKEY INTO THE STARTING LINE... AND THEN... THEY'RE OFF... AT SIXTY MILES PER HOUR!



FROM A CAR ON SHORE, THE PENGUIN SPIES A FAMILIAR FIGURE!



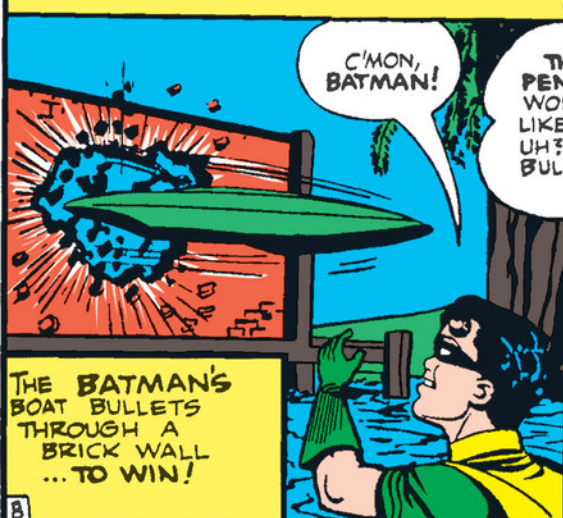
AND INDEED IT IS THE BATMAN WHOSE CRAFT LEAPS HIGH OVER THE SLANTING PLATFORM FOR THE LEADING JUMP!



HOLDING THE SCANT LEAD, THE OUTBOARD ROCKETS OVER CHOPPY WATERS... THROUGH THE NEXT HAZARD... A SHEET OF ROARING FLAME!



ON WHIP THE BOATS, AT A MILE-A-MINUTE CLIP... 'ROUND HAIR-PIN TURNS... OVER MORE JUMPS, THEN... THE FINAL HAZARD!



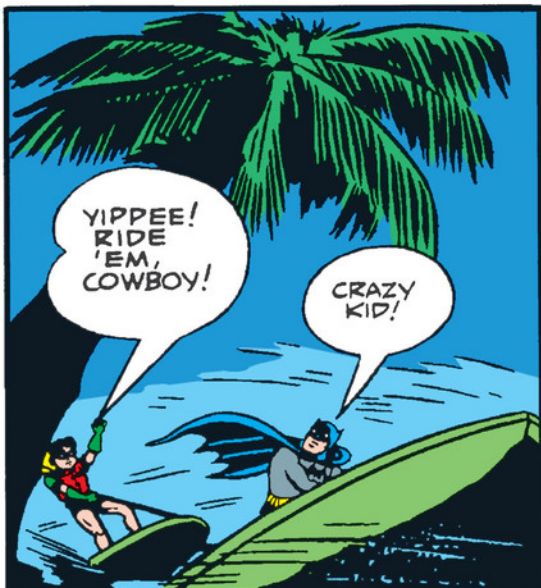
AT THE FINISH LINE... A BULLET DRILLS PAST THE BATMAN AND SMASHES INTO THE WOOD!



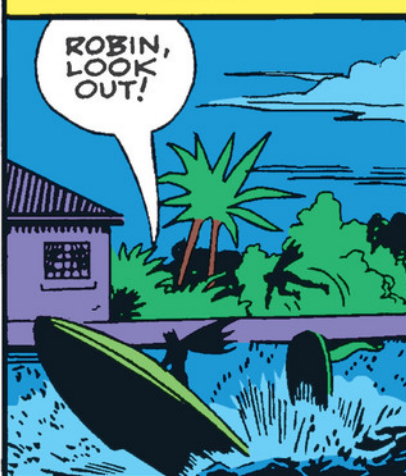
YOU'LL GET HURT! THEY'RE OUT TO KILL... AND BESIDES... ER... THE BOAT CAN ONLY CARRY ONE PERSON!



AN INSANE CHASE BEGINS!
RACING PARALLEL ALONG THE
FAMOUS VENETIAN ISLANDS
...A POWER-CHARGED CAR ...
AND A ROARING OUTBOARD -
WITH A MADCAP LAD RIDING
A SWAYING SURFBOARD!!



SUDDENLY! ANGRY BULLETS
CRACK THE STEERING WHEEL!
THE BOAT SWINGS IN A WILD
ARC...



...TO THUD HEAVILY
ON THE EARTH!

GRAB THE BOY!
WE MUST ASSUME
NOW THAT THE
BATMAN KNOWS OF
OUR GAMBLING PLACE!
SO...I HAVE A PLAN...
HEE...HEE!



NOT LONG AFTER... EYES
LIKE CHIPS OF BLUE STEEL,
THE BATMAN STRIDES
PURPOSEFULLY INTO THE
BIRD HOUSE.

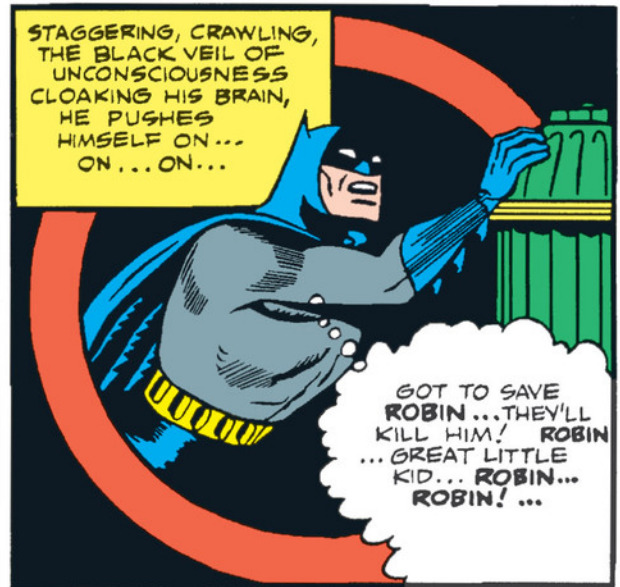
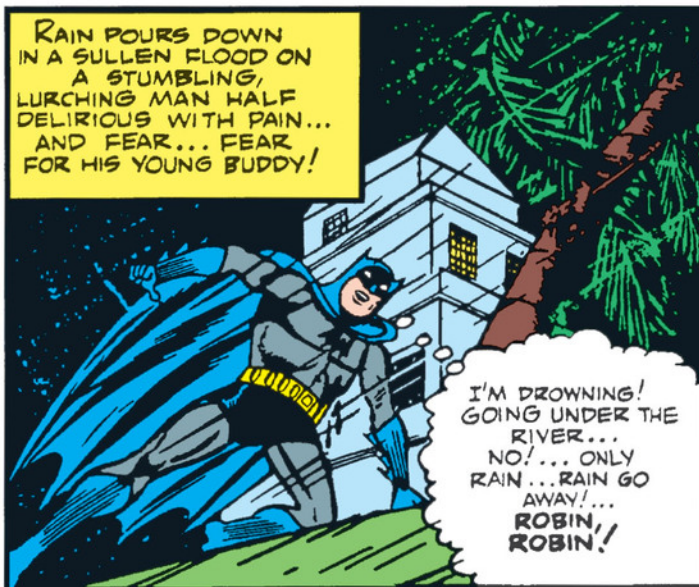
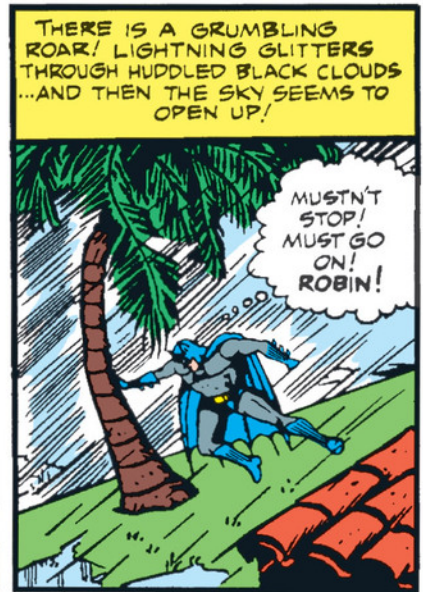
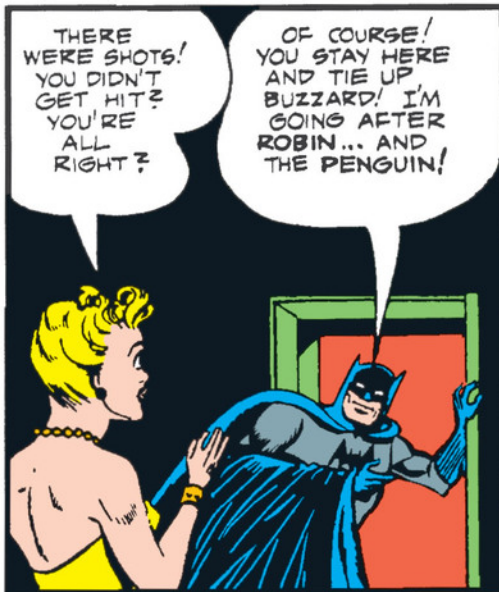


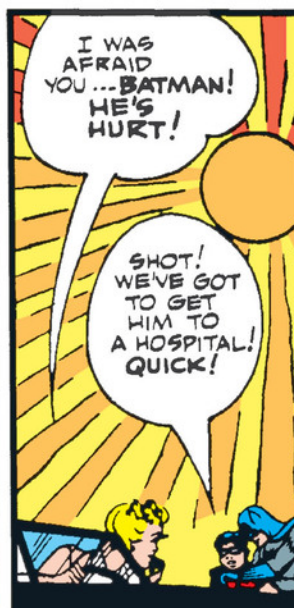
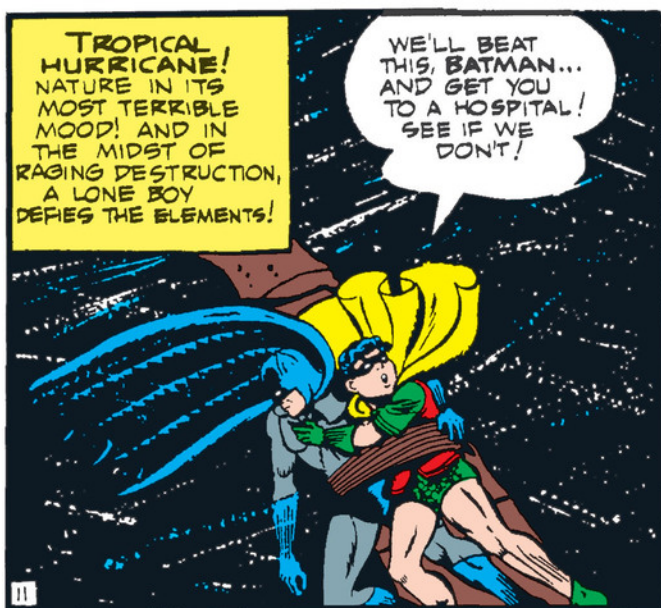
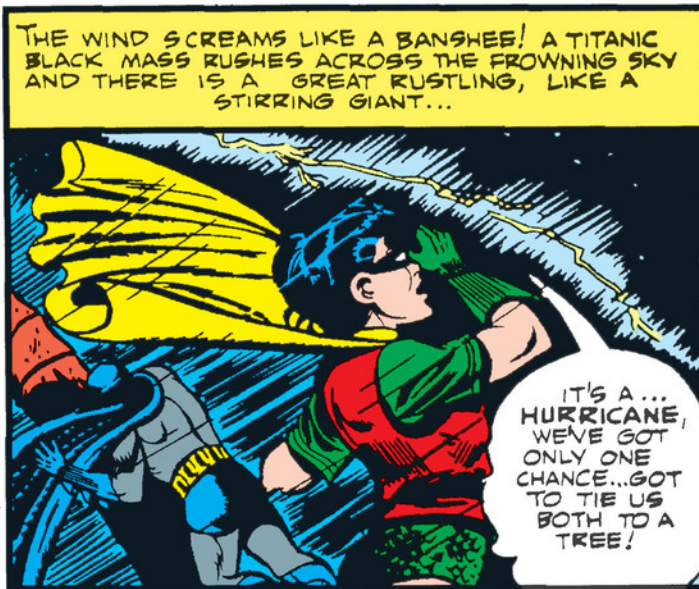
BUT AS BUZZARD TELLS THE ADDRESS...



INSTINCTIVELY...THE
BATMAN PUSHES THE
GIRL OUT OF HARM'S
WAY... AND...







BUT AT THE HOSPITAL...

BUT WE CAN'T WAIT TILL A DOCTOR IS FREE! THIS MAN MAY DIE!

EVERY DOCTOR HERE HAS MORE SERIOUS CASES THAN HE CAN HANDLE!

THE HURRICANE CAUSED MANY CASUALTIES! WE'RE SO RUSHED!

ROBIN, WE CAN'T WAIT ANY LONGER! ONCE I WAS A DOCTOR'S ASSISTANT! PERHAPS I CAN PULL HIM THROUGH! ARE YOU WILLING TO LET ME OPERATE ON YOUR FRIEND?

ANYTHING YOU DO TO SAVE BATMAN IS OKAY WITH ME! BUT SAVE HIM... PLEASE!

INSTRUMENTS ARE BORROWED, AND IN A ROOM AS WHITE AS DEATH, A NIGHT CLUB SINGER'S MANICURED FINGERS TOIL TO GIVE THE BATMAN BACK HIS LIFE!

SCALPEL, ROBIN!

AT LAST...FINISHED! THE NERVE-WRACKING TASK IS OVER.

WILL HE...?

YES! HE'LL LIVE, ROBIN... HE'LL LIVE!

SOME TIME LATER...THE BIRD HOUSE.

A NICE HAUL, BUT WE BETTER START MOVIN'!

EGAD! WE HAD BETTER BEFORE THE BATMAN MAKES ANOTHER APPEARANCE!

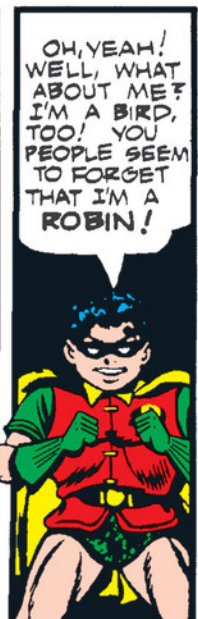
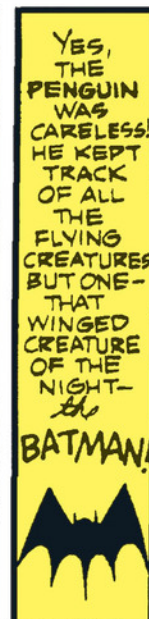
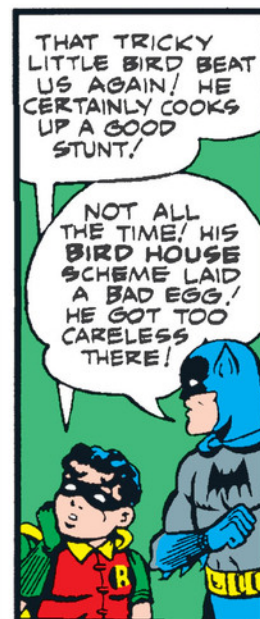
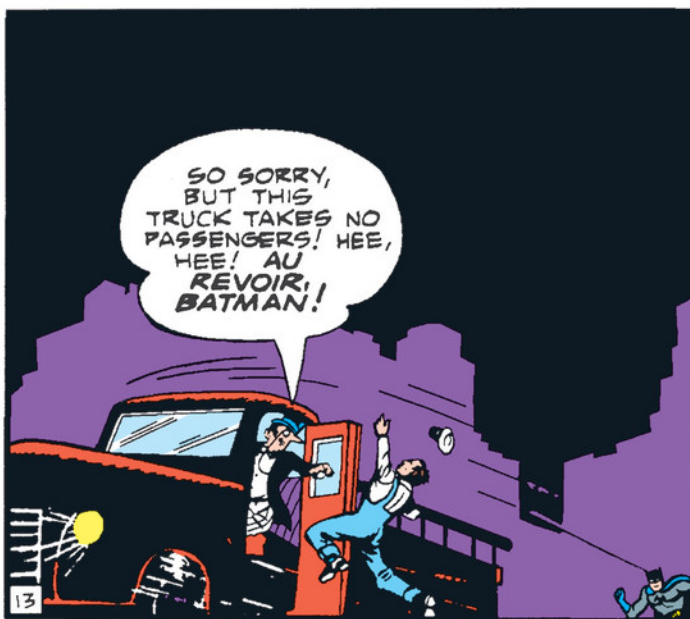
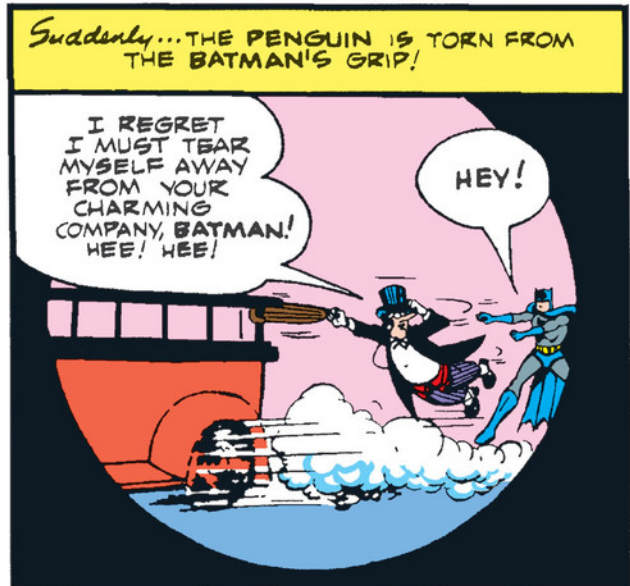
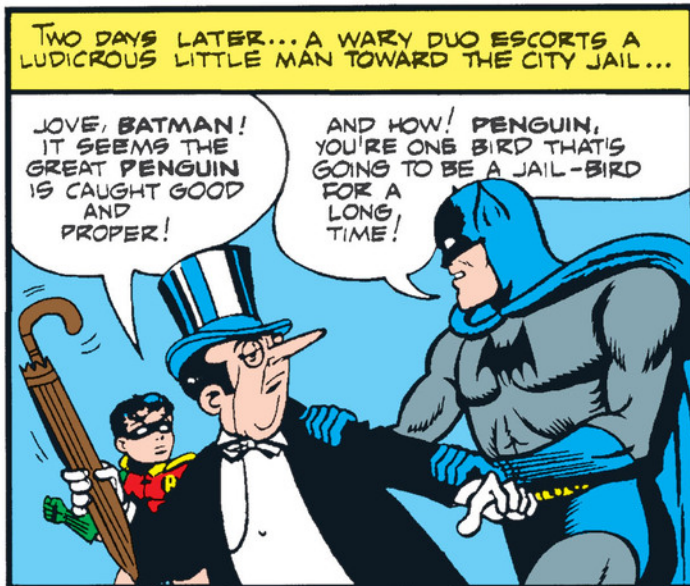
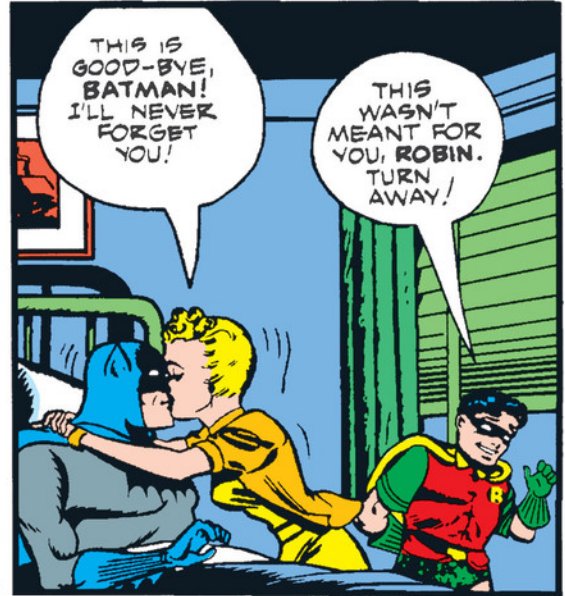
THE BATMAN COULDN'T COME... SO I CAME IN HIS PLACE...TO CLIP YOUR WINGS!

AND AS THE BATMAN WOULD SAY "THAT, GENTLEMEN, IS THAT!"

THE BATMAN'S PHYSICALLY PERFECT BODY RALLIES, AND THE NEXT MORNING HE AWAKENS, WEAK, BUT QUITE RECOVERED...TO FIND...

I JAILED THE OTHERS MYSELF, BUT I THOUGHT YOU MIGHT LIKE TAKING IN THE PENGUIN!

ROBIN, YOU MAKE ME FEEL BETTER ALREADY! BUT THE PENGUIN LOOKS A LITTLE SICK... EH?



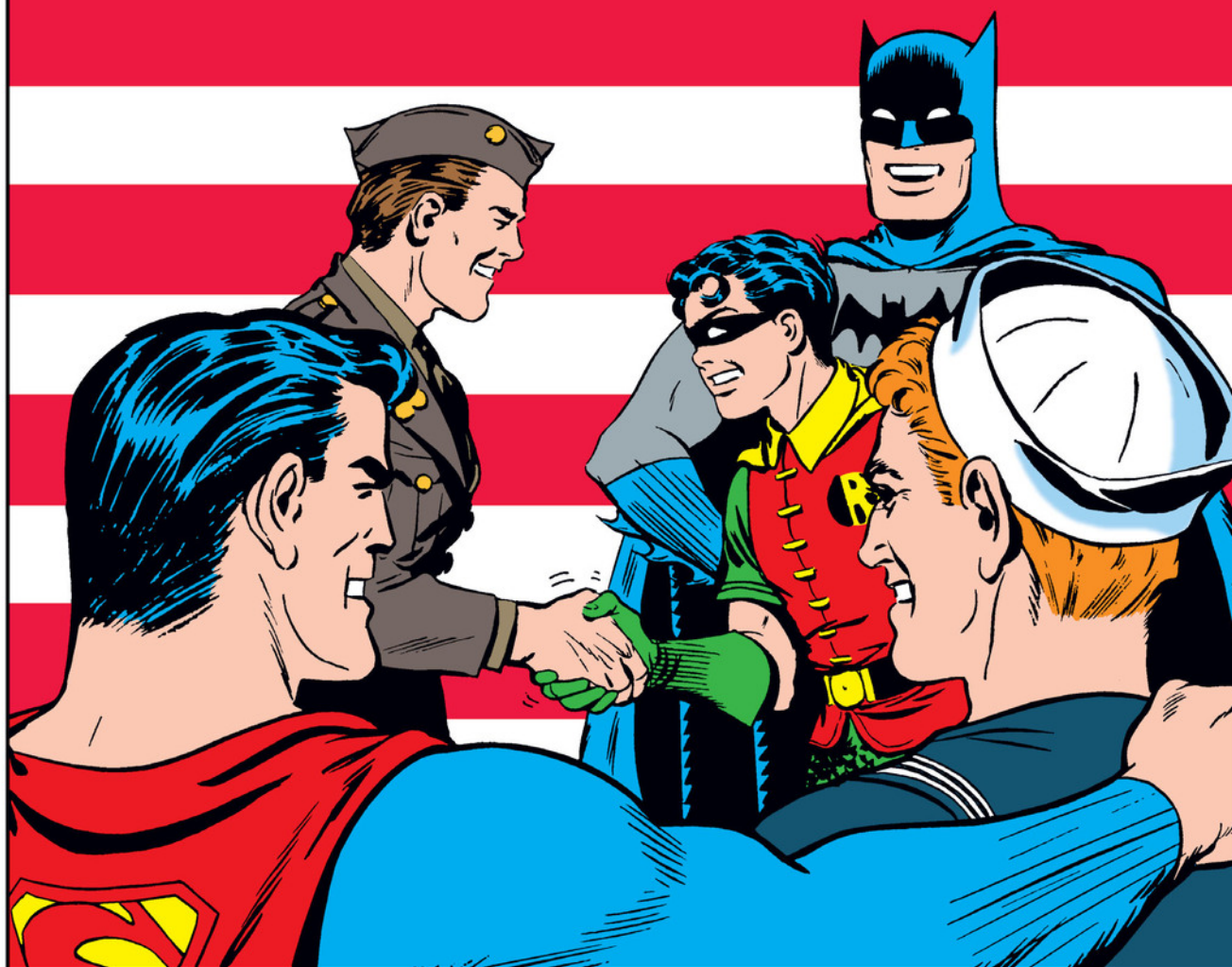
No.6

SUMMER ISSUE



WORLD'S FINEST COMICS

96
PAGES



BATMAN

WITH
ROBIN
- THE BOY WONDER -

BOB
KANE

View

?

Exclusive! in this issue -
the **BATMAN** Exposed!

SCOOP SCANLON WAS A NICE GUY, BUT HE WAS A NEWSHAWK. THEY SAID HE HAD INK IN HIS VEINS INSTEAD OF BLOOD. NOW SCOOP HAD NOTHING AGAINST THE BATMAN. HE ADMIRED THE FAMOUS CRIME-BUSTER. BUT SCOOP WAS A REPORTER, FIRST AND LAST. SO SCOOP DECIDED TO GET THE SCOOP OF HIS CAREER, OR SOMEBODY'S CAREER. HE WAS GOING TO TRACK DOWN THE BATMAN'S IDENTITY, EXPOSE HIM TO THE WORLD! BUT WHEN SCOOP PUT OUT HIS HAND TO UNMASK THE BATMAN... HE GOT HIS FINGERS BURNED - BECAUSE HE TRIED TO PROBE...

"THE SECRET OF BRUCE WAYNE!"

STRANGE ACTION... IN A STRANGE ROOM...

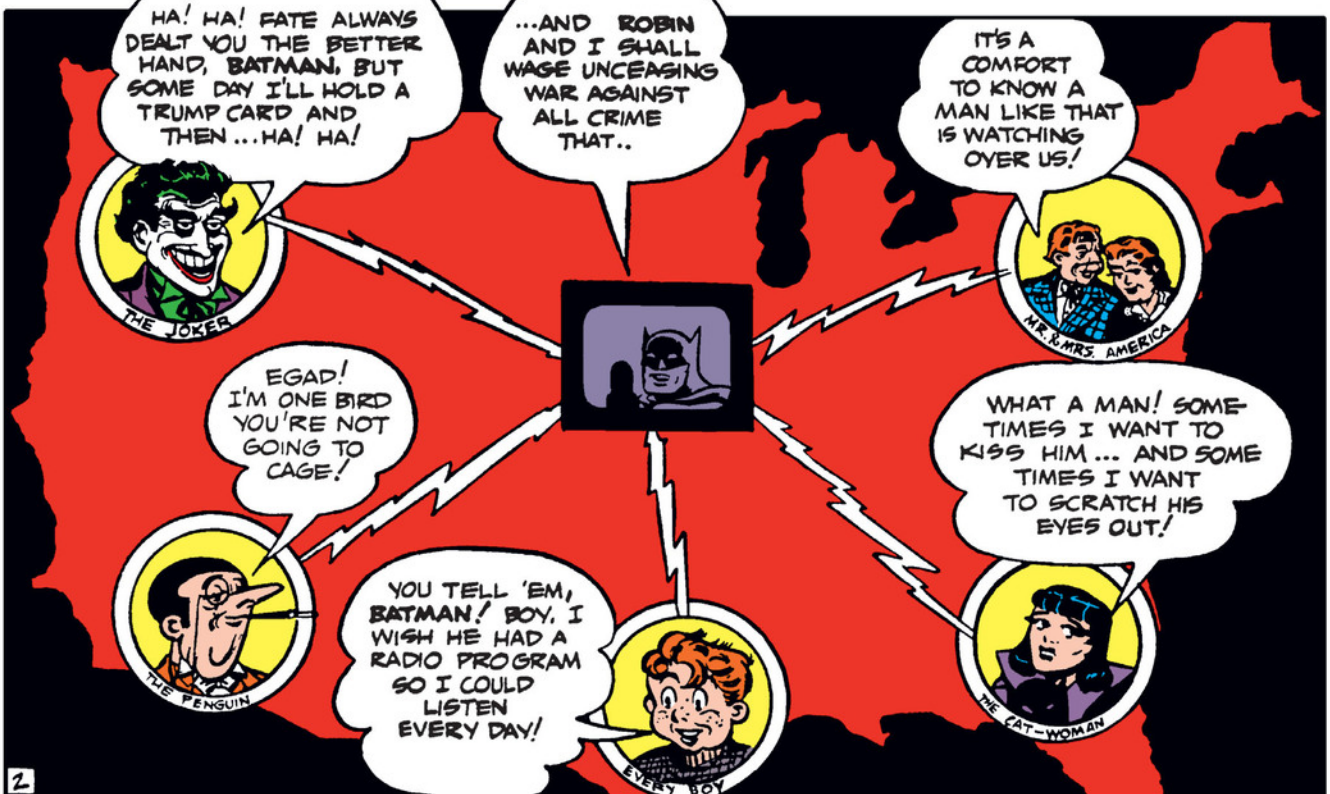
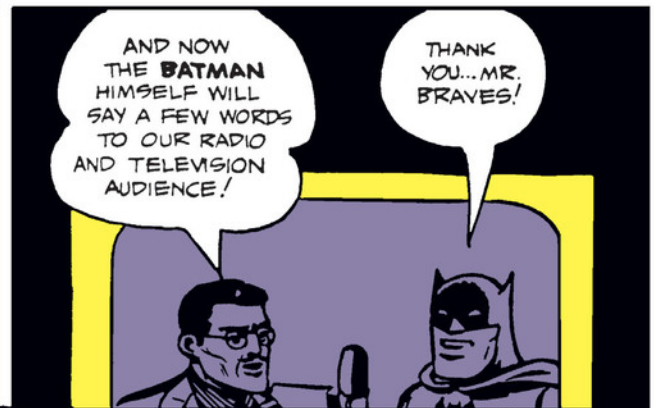
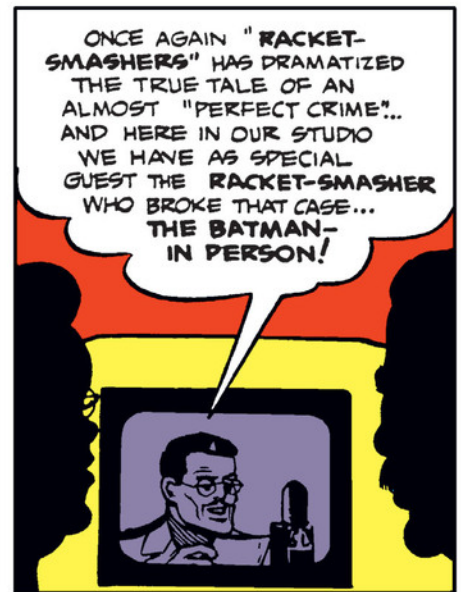
SCRAM, ROCKY... THE BATMAN!

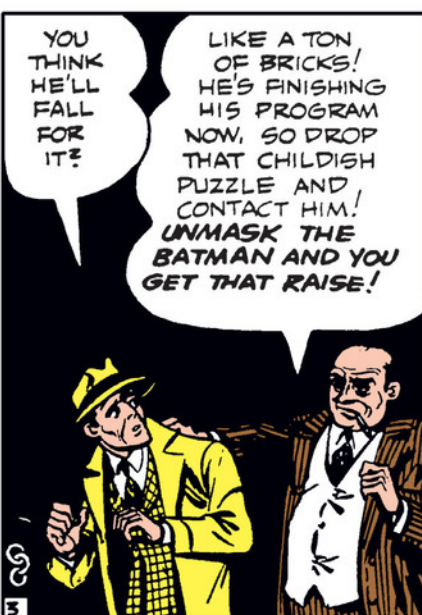
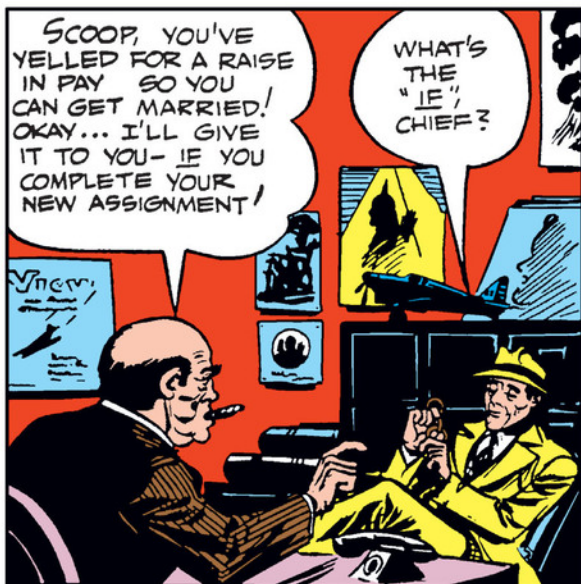
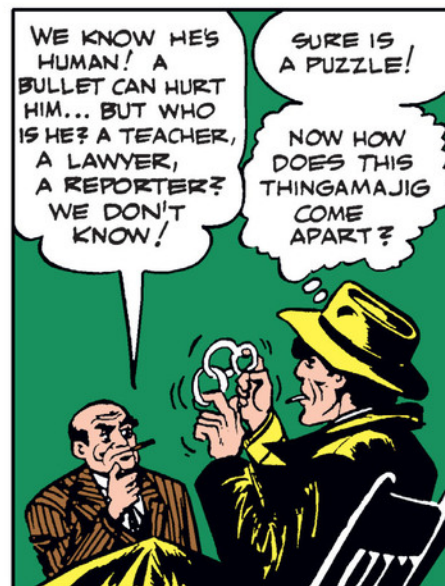
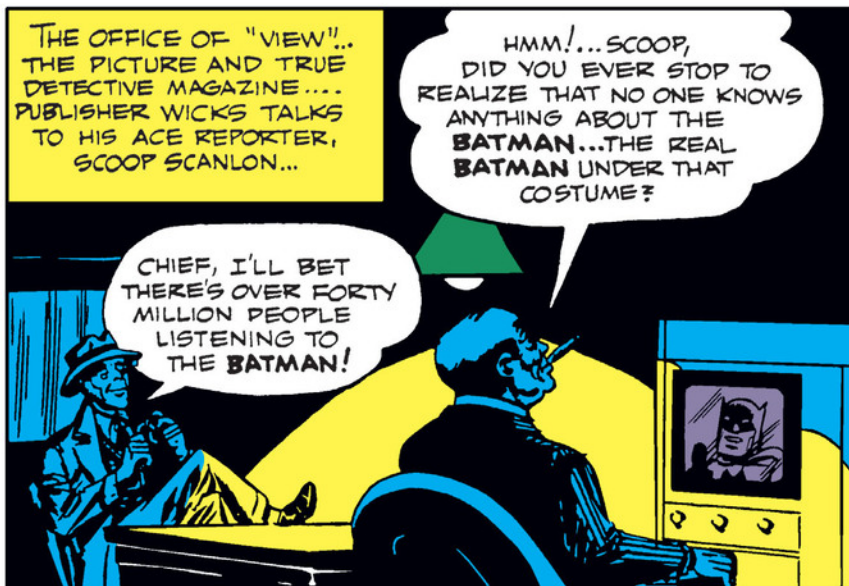
YOU'RE STAYING, CHUM! YOU FORGOT THAT SAFE HAD A TIME-LOCK ON IT!

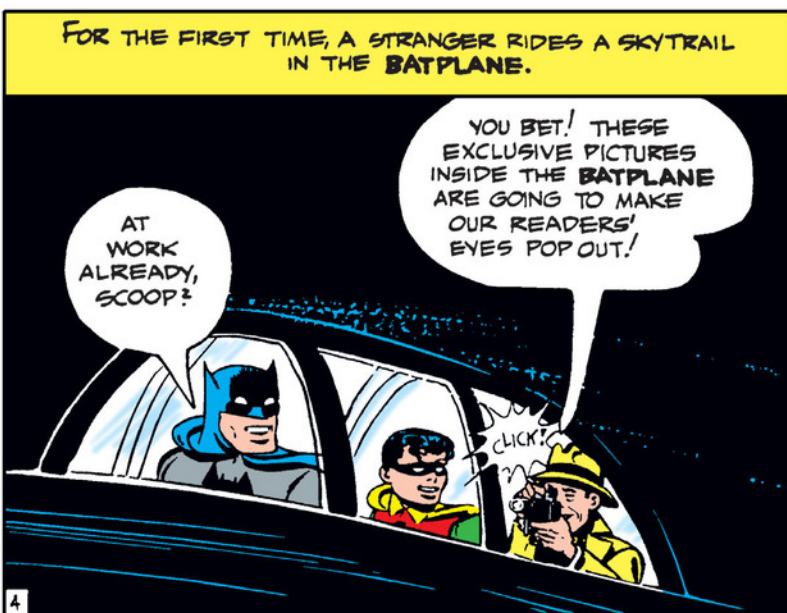
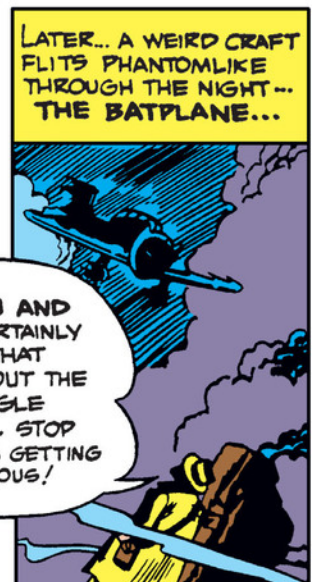
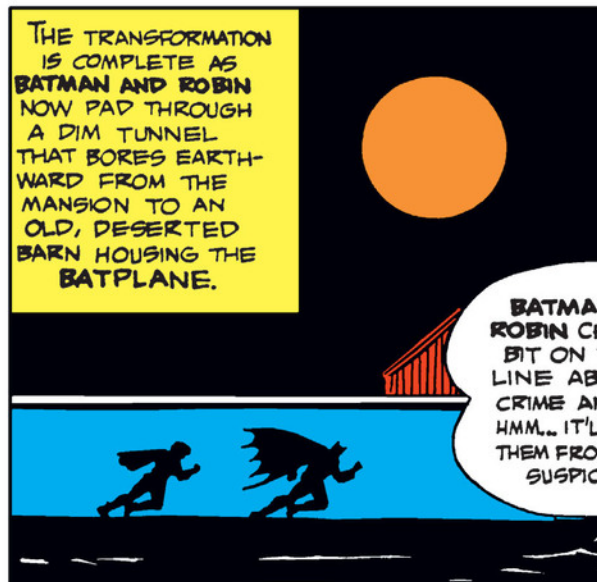
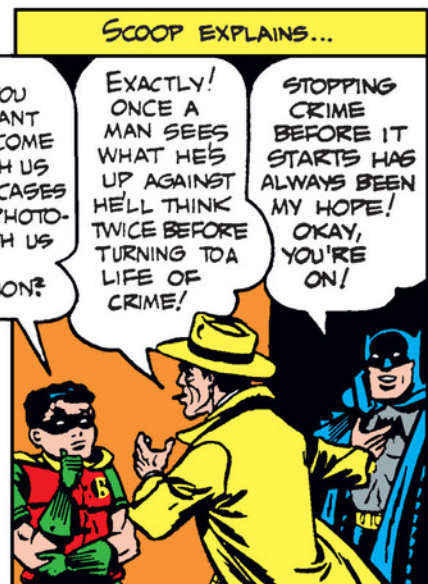
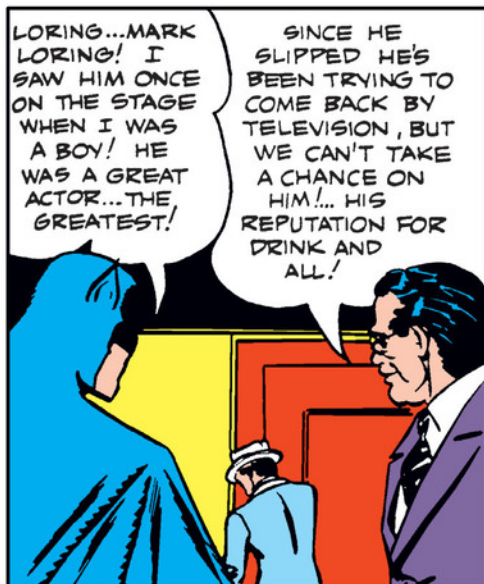
AMERICA'S NO.1
CRIME-BUSTER I

MAY 1942









INSTANTLY THE RACKET-SMASHERS GO TO WORK, PORING OVER A MAP OF GOTHAM CITY'S STREETS.

THEY CAN'T CUT UP BY WAY OF CHARLES STREET 'CAUSE THAT'S A ONE-WAY STREET! AND LARK STREET IS A DEAD-END!

THEN THEY'LL TRY STATE AVENUE! LET'S GO!

YOU TWO CERTAINLY KNOW YOUR BUSINESS!

STATE AVENUE! KEEN EYES DISCERN A CAR IN OVER-HASTY FLIGHT!

THAT'S IT! NO MAN DRIVES LIKE THAT UNLESS HE WANTS TO LOSE THE POLICE!

I'LL PICK OFF THEIR FRONT TIRE!

NICE SHOOTING, HAWKEYE! I'LL FIX THE STABILIZER AND WE'LL GO GET 'EM!

CRASH

TAKE A GOOD LOOK!

L-LOOK!

AND A FAST ONE... 'CAUSE YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO SEE MUCH OUT OF TWO BLACK EYES!

HERE! DON'T CROWD EACH OTHER! I CAN ACCOMMODATE BOTH OF YOU!

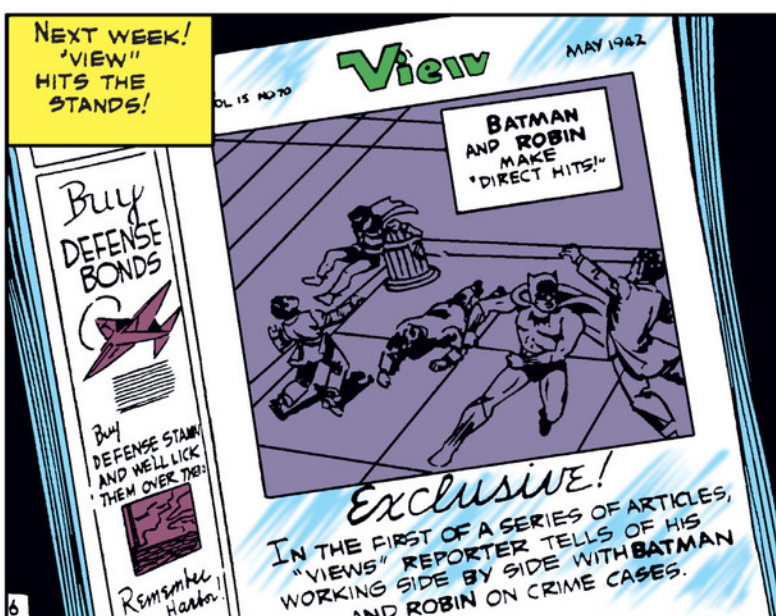
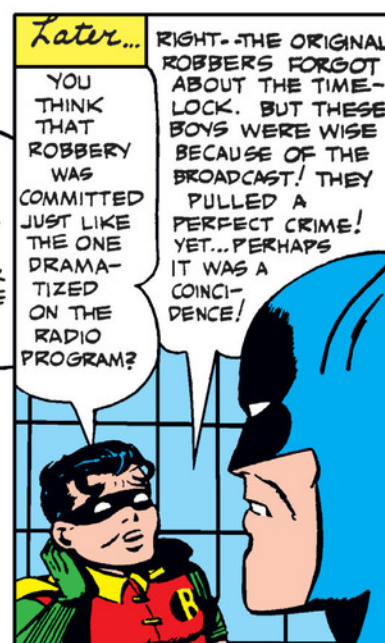
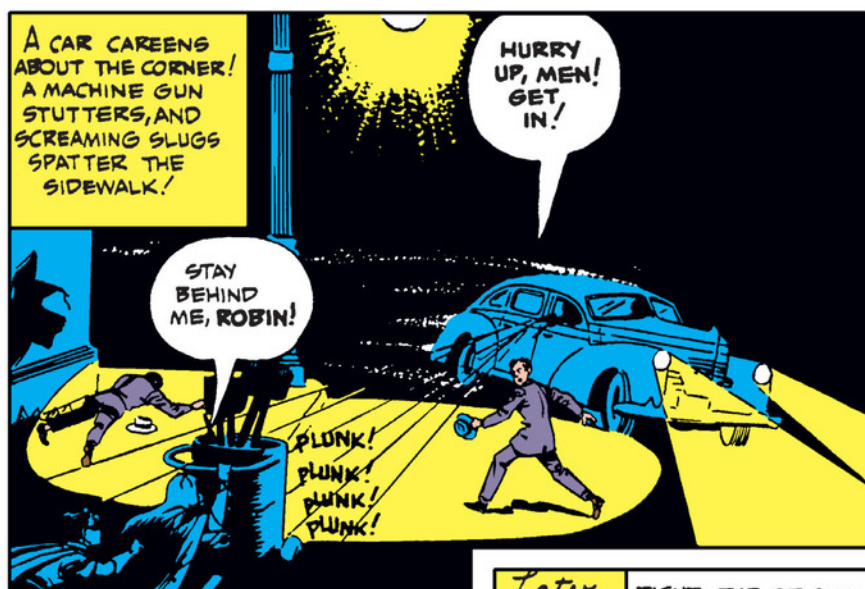
SOME SCOOP!

CLICK!

I GET A KICK OUT OF THIS!

OOH!

MOVING WITH EYE-BLURRING SPEED, THE TWIN CRIME-SMASHERS TEAR INTO THE BANDITS!



CHIEF, I DON'T FEEL RIGHT ABOUT ALL THIS! IF WE UNMASK THE BATMAN, HE WON'T BE ABLE TO FIGHT CRIME ANY MORE... AND THE RACKETEERS WILL RUN THIS CITY!

YES...I...I THOUGHT OF THAT... BUT I'M...I'M DETERMINED TO... TO SEE THIS THROUGH! ...I'M GOING TO GIVE YOU HELP AND...

THE NEXT DAY!...

LATER... A PUZZLED SCOOP LEAVES...

'HMPH! CAN'T UNDERSTAND IT! THAT'S THE FIRST TIME I EVER SAW THE BOSS SO NERVOUS!

THAT NIGHT... AT THE OFFICE OF POLICE COMMISSIONER GORDON...

MY DATE WITH THE BATMAN IS TWO NIGHTS FROM NOW... BUT BY THEN IT WILL BE TOO LATE! YOU'VE GOT TO CALL HIM!

HMM! THE BATMAN MUST THINK WELL OF YOU TO LET YOU PHOTOGRAPH HIM IN ACTION. ALL RIGHT... I'LL DO IT!

PRESENTLY... A MILE-LONG FINGER OF LIGHT ETCHES AN EERIE SYMBOL AGAINST THE SKY!

LOOK! A BAT!

THAT LIGHT COMES FROM THE POLICE STATION ROOF! THAT'S HOW THEY CALL THE BATMAN!

NOT LONG AFTER... A CAPED SHAPE ANSWERS THE SUMMONS FROM THE SKIES!

DID SOMEONE CALL FOR ME?

BATMAN! THANK HEAVENS YOU'VE COME! I'M IN TROUBLE AND NEED YOUR HELP!

SOME TIME AFTER, THE BATMOBILE HALTS BEFORE A RAMSHACKLE OLD MILL WHOSE RAGGED BULK HUDDLES AGAINST THE BLACK SKY!

...AND THEN THEY THREATENED ME!

BUT AS THE BATMAN STEPS WARILY WITHIN... SUDDEN AMBUSH!! LEAPING FIGURES PINION HIS ARMS!

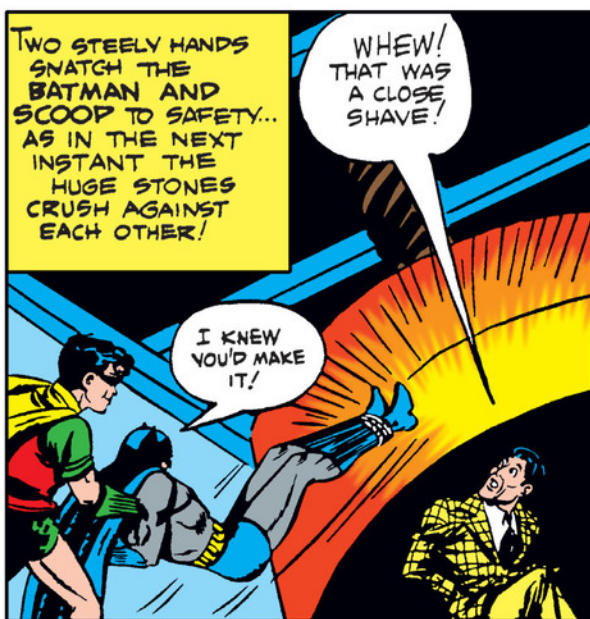
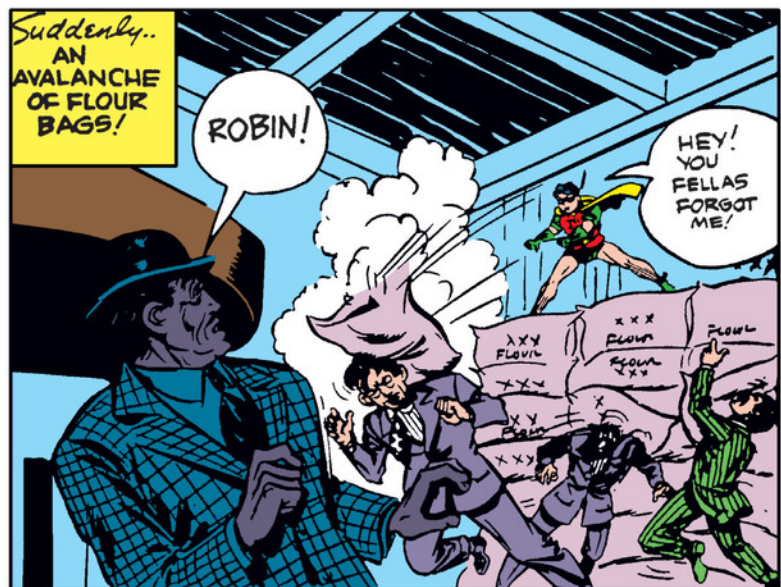
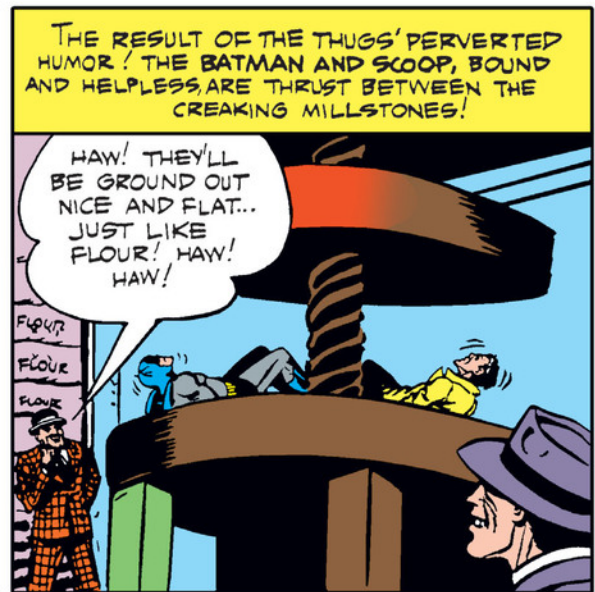
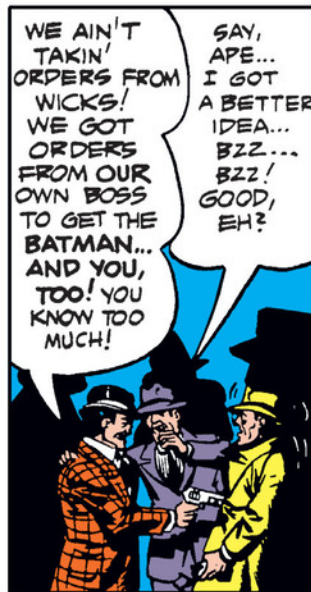
GOTCHA, PALLY!

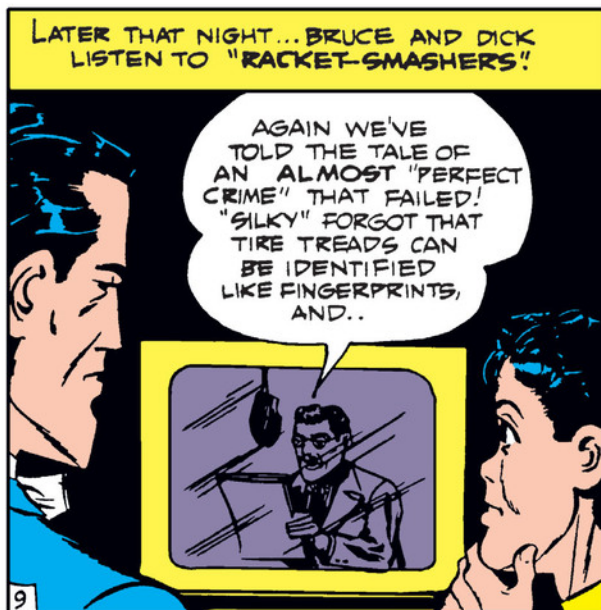
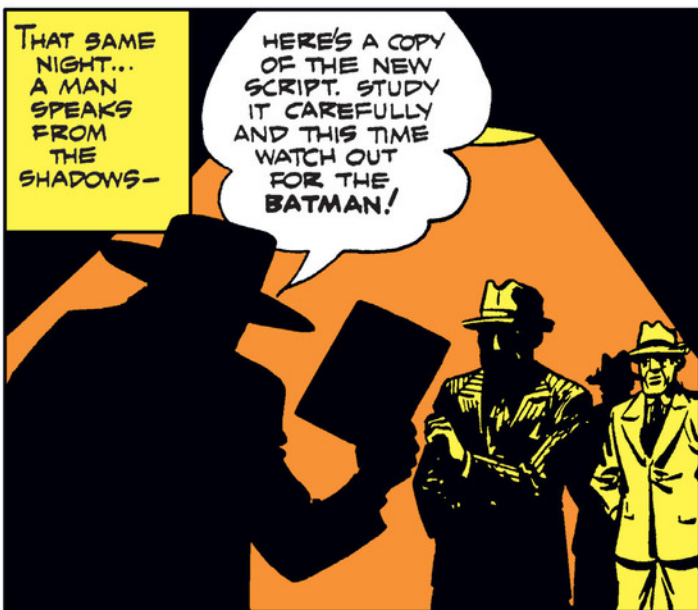
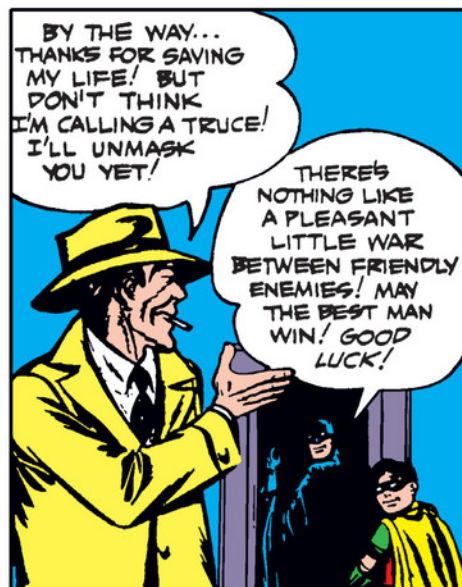
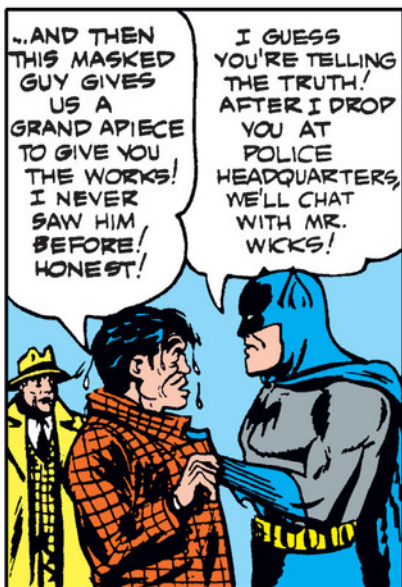
I KNOW I'M A RAT, BUT ALL THIS WAS A TRAP SO I COULD FIND OUT YOUR REAL IDENTITY!

SCOOP, YOU DOUBLE-CROSSER-

OKAY! SOMEBODY REMOVE THAT MASK WHILE I TAKE THE PICTURE! AND WHAT A PICTURE... THE BATMAN'S REAL FACE... FOR ALL THE WORLD TO SEE!

IT HAD TO COME EVENTUALLY! THE EXPOSURE OF THE BATMAN!





THE NEXT DAY..

LOOK! A ROBBERY PULLED EXACTLY AS IT WAS DRAMATIZED OVER "RACKET-SMASHERS" THE OTHER NIGHT... BUT THIS TIME WITHOUT MISTAKES!

THAT CLINCHES IT! THIS IS NO COINCIDENCE! PUT ON YOUR DUDS! WE'VE GOT WORK TO DO!

FIRST STOP! THE SCRIPT WRITER OF "RACKET-SMASHERS," MR. BRENT!

WHERE DO YOU GET THE MATERIAL FOR YOUR SCRIPTS?

POLICE RECORDS! POLICE CHIEFS COOPERATE WITH US! I GET INSIDE INFORMATION! BUT WHAT BUSINESS IS IT OF YOURS?

NEXT STOP! THE PROGRAM DIRECTOR, MR. RAND!

YOU SAY THE SCRIPTS ARE GIVEN TO THE ACTORS A WEEK IN ADVANCE?

THIS IS A TELEVISION PROGRAM! OUR ACTORS CAN'T READ FROM SCRIPTS! ONLY THE ANNOUNCER, GRAVES, DOES THAT... AND HE'S GIVEN THE SCRIPT THE DAY BEFORE WE GO ON!

LORING AGAIN! NO... I'M SORRY, BUT THERE'S NO OPENING YET!

PLEASE, I MUST HAVE WORK... OTHERWISE, I MUST SELL MY OLD COSTUMES AND...

STUDIO B

HERE, TAKE THIS! OH, IT'S NOT CHARITY! JUST A LOAN... TILL YOU GET A BIG PART AGAIN!

GOD BLESS YOU, SIR! I'M INDEBTED TO YOU! IF EVER I CAN SERVE YOU IN SOME WAY, DO NOT HESITATE TO CALL ON ME!

AND WHILE THE BATMAN INVESTIGATES... SO DOES ANOTHER...

THIS FILE ON THE BATMAN SHOULD GIVE ME PLENTY OF DOPE! THE JOKER... THE PENGUIN... WHAT A PAIR! WONDER WHERE THEY ARE NOW?

BATMAN IN JOKER ESCAPE...
MY GUY PENGUIN STILL AT LARGE

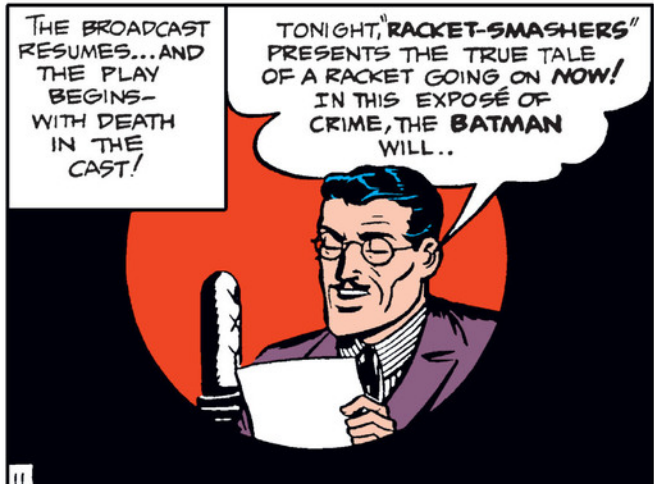
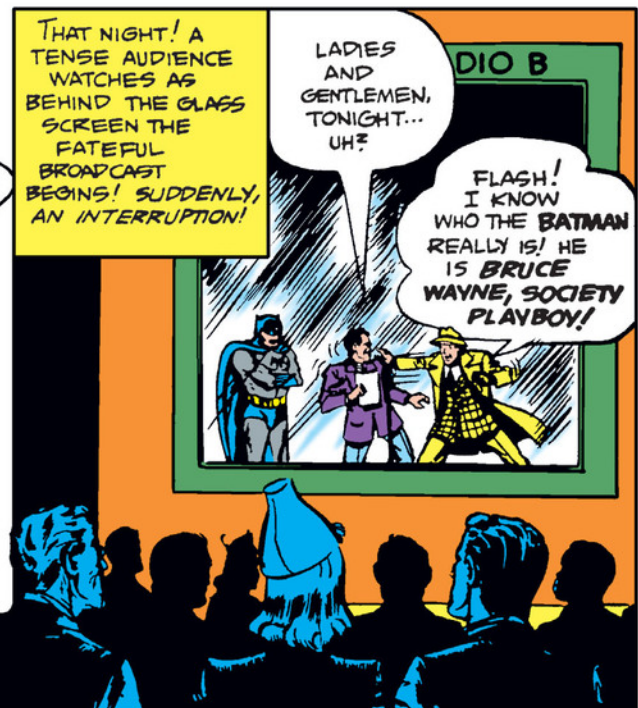
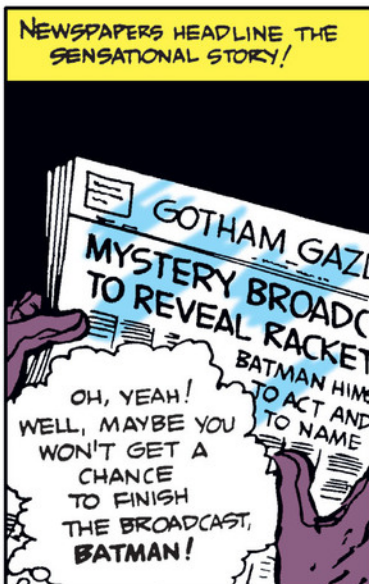
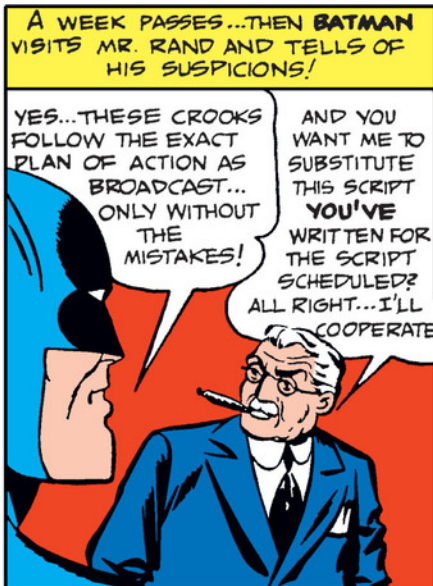
BATMAN CRIME SMASHER NO. 2

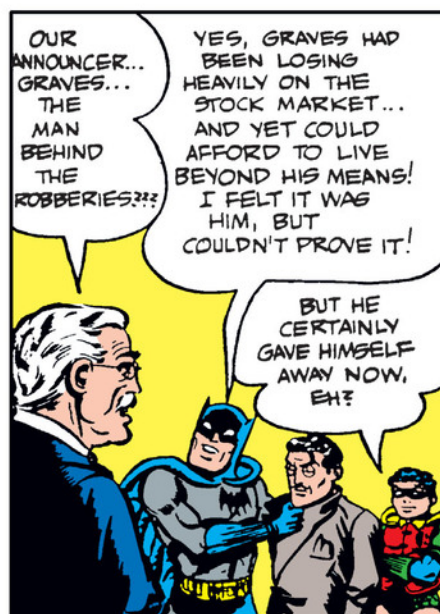
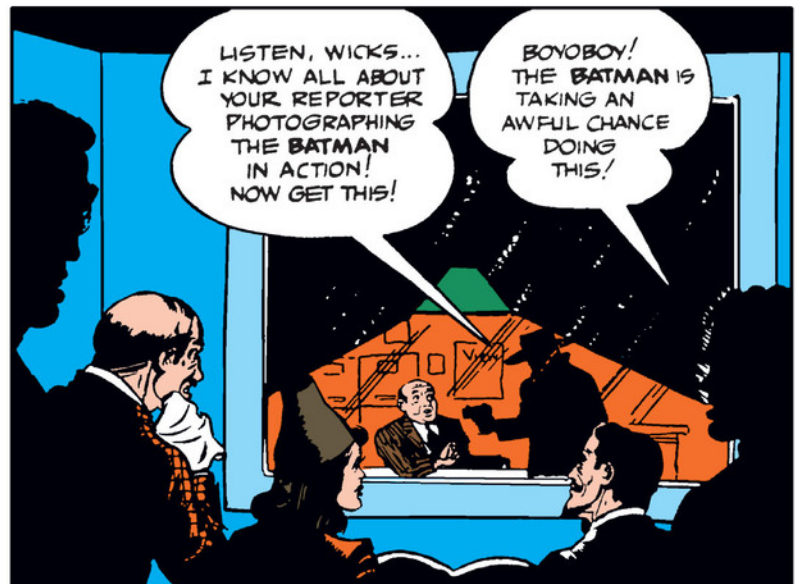
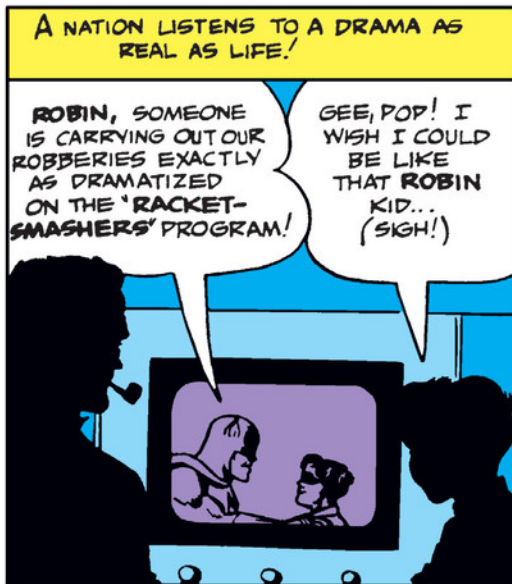
AS SCOOP SCANS THE FILES, SUDDENLY A QUEER FACT COMES TO HIS ATTENTION!

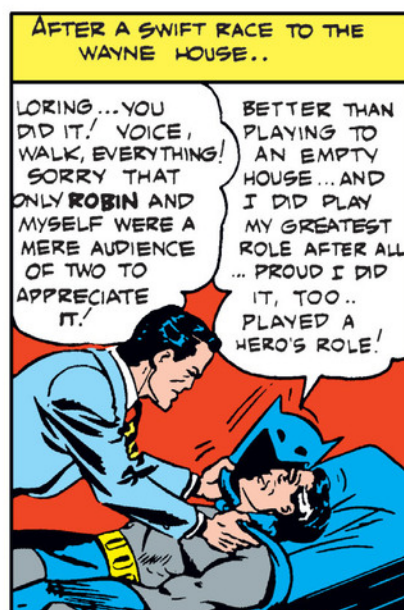
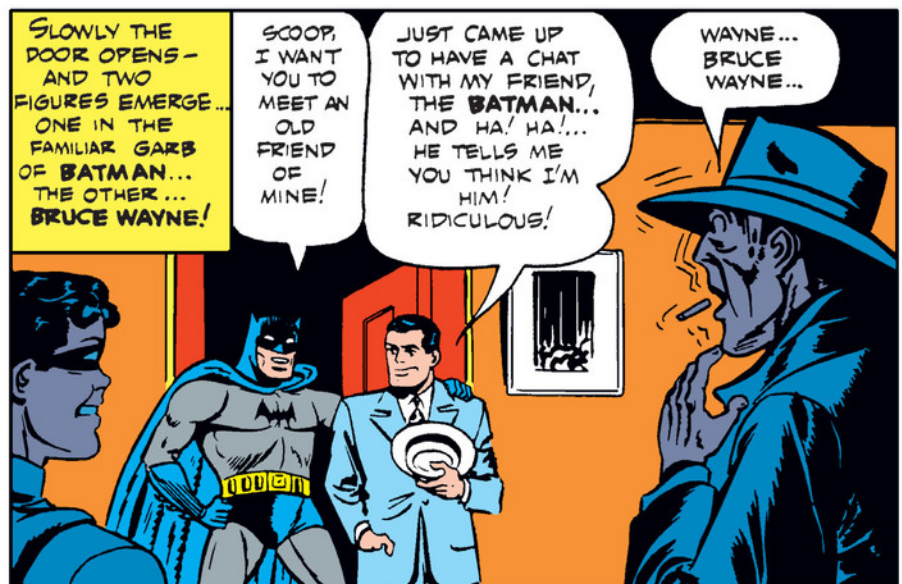
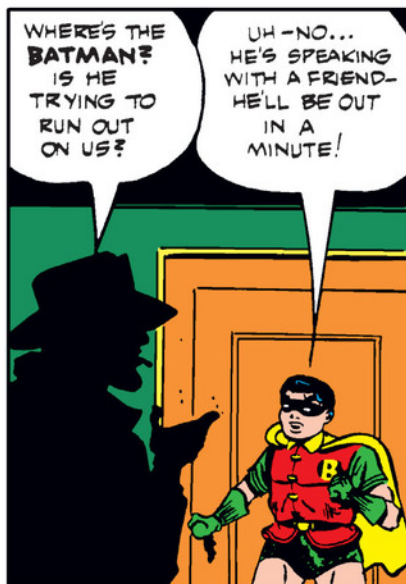
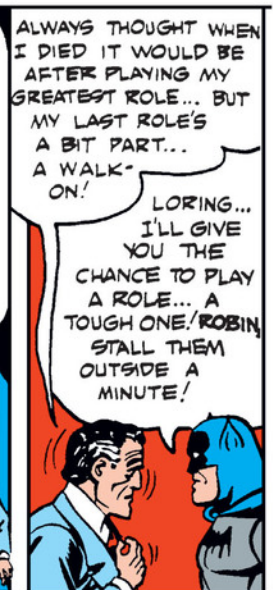
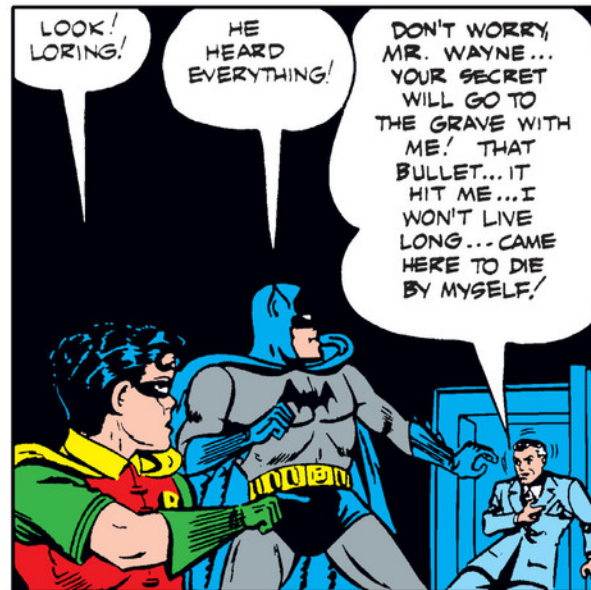
THIS PLAYBOY, BRUCE WAYNE... HE'S BEEN ON THE SCENE OF SEVERAL CASES! "THE SUPERSTITION MURDERS," "THE CASE OF THE PROPHETIC CRIMES!" I WONDER NOW!

THE MORE THE ACE NEWS-HOUND READS, THE MORE HE BECOMES CONVINCED THAT...

BRUCE WAYNE MUST BE THE BATMAN! I'M SURE OF IT! WHY IS HE ALWAYS AROUND IN CASES THAT INVOLVE BATMAN? WHY? THERE'S ONLY ONE POSSIBLE ANSWER!









The **BATMAN**

No. 65

The Winning Team!
BATMAN AND ROBIN



Detective COMICS

JULY

ROBIN AND I
WANT TO WELCOME YOU
BOY COMMANDOS
TO DETECTIVE COMICS!

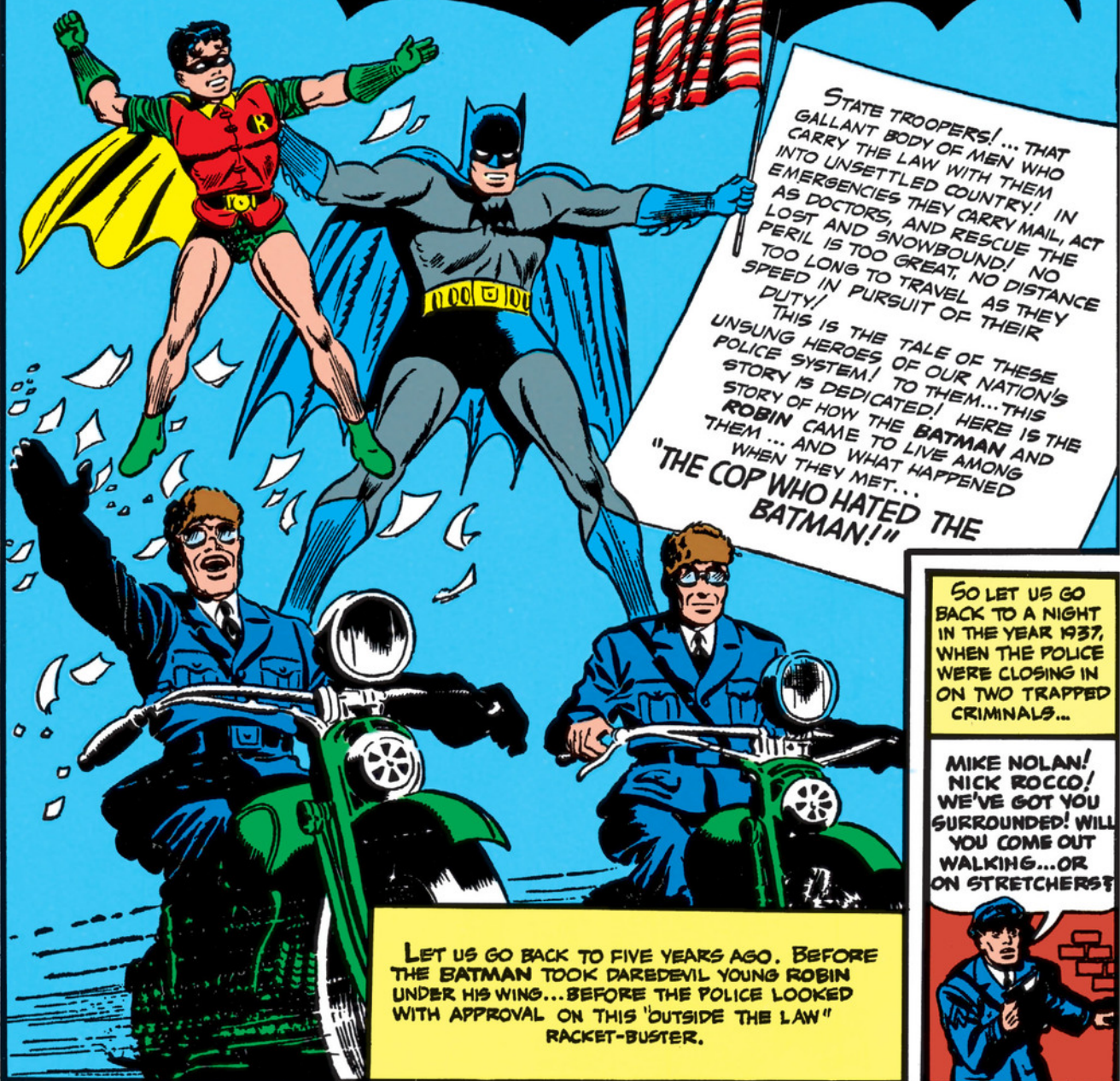
GEE! THANKS
BATMAN, WERE
GLAD TO BE IN
SUCH GOOD COMPANY!

YOU FELLOWS
ARE A SWELL
BUNCH OF
HARD-HITTING
CHARACTERS,
AND-WHEW!
-YOU HAVE
TERRIFIC
ADVENTURES!



BATMAN

WITH
ROBIN
- THE BOY WONDER

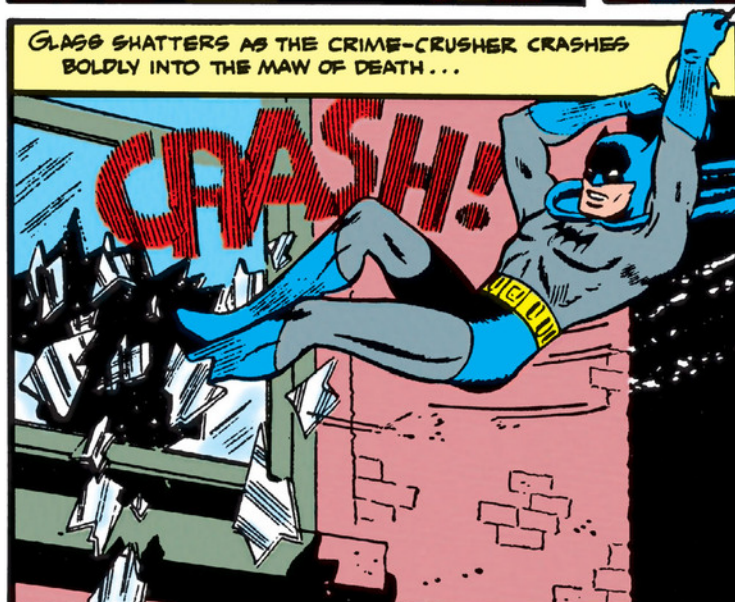


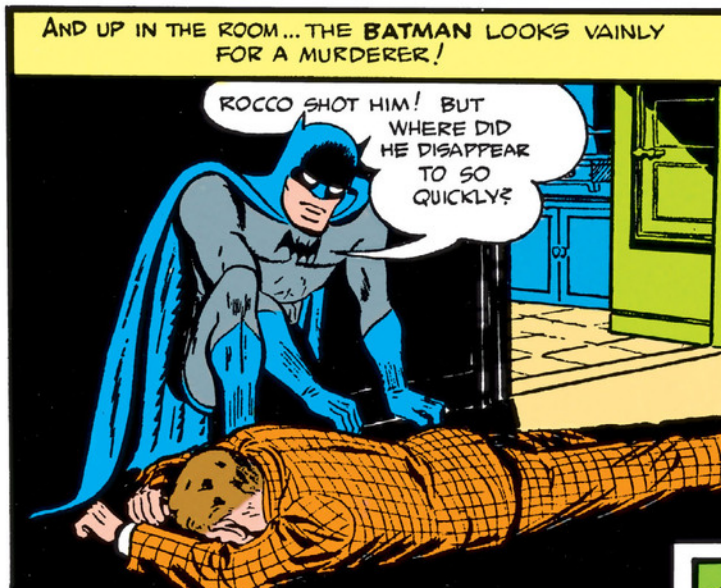
LET US GO BACK TO FIVE YEARS AGO. BEFORE THE BATMAN TOOK DAREDEVIL YOUNG ROBIN UNDER HIS WING... BEFORE THE POLICE LOOKED WITH APPROVAL ON THIS "OUTSIDE THE LAW" RACKET-BUSTER.

SO LET US GO BACK TO A NIGHT IN THE YEAR 1937, WHEN THE POLICE WERE CLOSING IN ON TWO TRAPPED CRIMINALS...

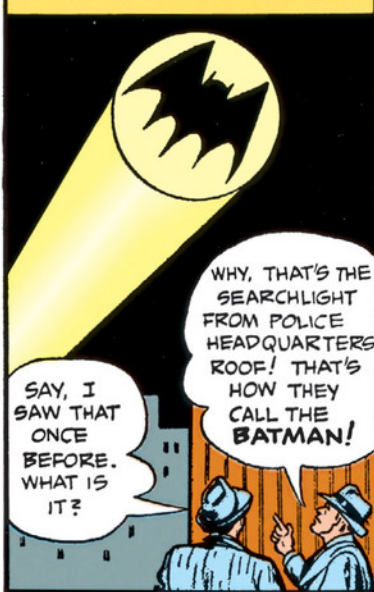
MIKE NOLAN! NICK ROCCO! WE'VE GOT YOU SURROUNDED! WILL YOU COME OUT WALKING... OR ON STRETCHERS?







THE TIME...TODAY! THE PLACE...
GOTHAM CITY! IT IS NIGHT,
AND SUDDENLY A GIGANTIC CONE
OF LIGHT ETCHES AN EERIE
SYMBOL AGAINST THE SKY!



SAY, I
SAW THAT
ONCE
BEFORE.
WHAT IS
IT?

WHY, THAT'S THE
SEARCHLIGHT
FROM POLICE
HEADQUARTERS
ROOF! THAT'S
HOW THEY
CALL THE
BATMAN!

SCANT MOMENTS LATER, TWO LITHE FIGURES LOPE SWIFTLY OVER CITY STREETS—
BATMAN AND ROBIN THE BOY WONDER!!...

LIFT YOUR FEET, ROBIN! GORDON
NEVER CALLS US UNLESS IT'S AN
EMERGENCY!



YEAH...
(PUFF...PUFF)
WONDER
WHAT'S UP?

SOON THE
DYNAMIC DUO
BURSTS IN ON
THE POLICE
COMMISSIONER.



GORDON!
WHAT'S
WRONG?

HA! HA! TAKE
IT EASY! NO
CRIME-HUNTING
THIS TIME! I JUST
CALLED TO FIND OUT IF
YOU WANT TO GO WITH
ME ON MY VACATION!

I'M GOING TO
SPEND TWO WEEKS
UP IN ONE OF OUR
NORTHERN STATES...
AT THE BARRACKS
OF STATE
TROOPERS!



I THOUGHT YOU
AND ROBIN
WOULD FIND IT
VERY INTERESTING
TO WATCH THEIR
WORK AT FIRST
HAND.



GEE!
SOUNDS
SWELL TO
ME! LET'S
GO, HUH?

I WOULDN'T
MIND! OKAY,
GORDON,
YOU'VE GOT
COMPANY!

TWO DAYS' TRAVEL BRINGS THE
TRIO TO THE SNOW-COVERED
MOUNTAIN OF A NORTHERN STATE...



IT'S SPRING AND THERE'S
STILL SNOW
UP HERE!

DON'T FORGET,
ROBIN, THIS
IS HIGH MOUNTAIN
LAND.

HELLO, CAPTAIN...
I'VE BROUGHT
ALONG A COUPLE
OF GUESTS--
BATMAN
AND ROBIN!



BATMAN AND
RO...? I'M
GLAD TO MEET
YOU! WAIT
TILL MY MEN FIND
OUT ABOUT THIS!
THEY'LL MOB
YOU!

LOOK!
THERE'S
THE
BARRACKS
NOW!

AND THE EAGER TROOPERS
DO MOB THEIR HONORARY
FELLOW OFFICERS.

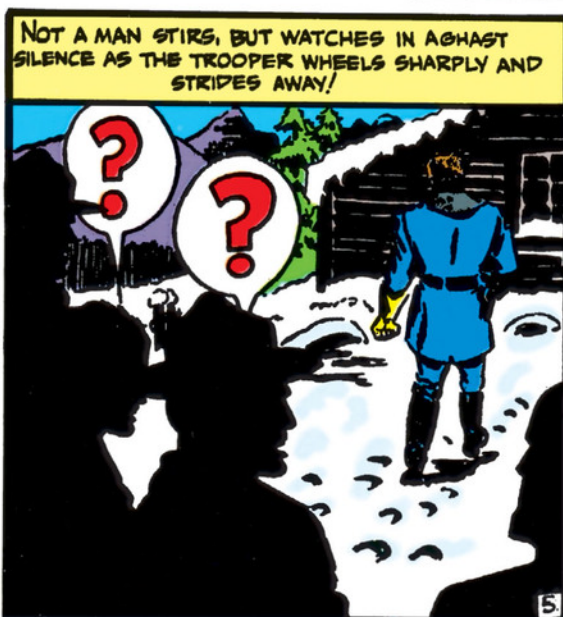


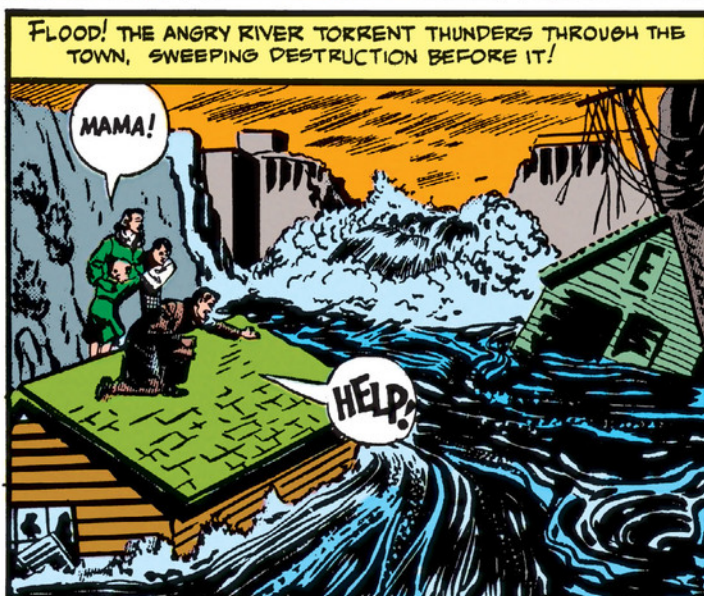
HOW ABOUT
AN AUTOGRAPH?

I'M
SHAKING
HANDS WITH
THE BATMAN!
BOYBOY!



IN THOSE EYES, THE BATMAN SEES HATE...SEARING, BURNING HATE...HATE SO STRONG IT BEATS AGAINST HIM LIKE A SOLID WALL OF FLAME!





THEN BATMAN'S KEEN EYES SPOT THOSE HUMAN JACKALS WHO PREY ON CATASTROPHE—THE LOOTERS!



WHY, THE VERMIN! GET THAT MAN TO THE BOAT, ROBIN! I'LL TAKE CARE OF THOSE SCAVENGERS... PRONTO!



A LASSO LOOPS INTO PLACE, AND THE BATMAN'S MUSCLED FORM CANNON-BALLS INTO THE LOOTERS!



WHERE DID HE COME FROM?

SPLASH!



WHAT'S MORE IMPORTANT IS WHERE YOU'RE GOING!

DESPERATION LENDS COURAGE...EVEN TO RATS... AND A MAD ONRUSH SLAMS THE BATMAN OFF-BALANCE...



BEFORE THE BATMAN CAN RECOVER, A HUGE LOG, RIDING THE WATERS, THUDS HIM INTO UNCONSCIOUSNESS.



ONLY ONE PAIR OF EYES SEES ALL THIS...EYES IN WHICH DOUBT WAVES FOR A MOMENT...AS THE BATMAN SINKS BENEATH THE WAVES!



THE MAN I'VE HATED ALL THESE YEARS...DROWNING... I CAN LET HIM DIE WITH NO ONE BEING THE WISER...BUT YET.... I ...

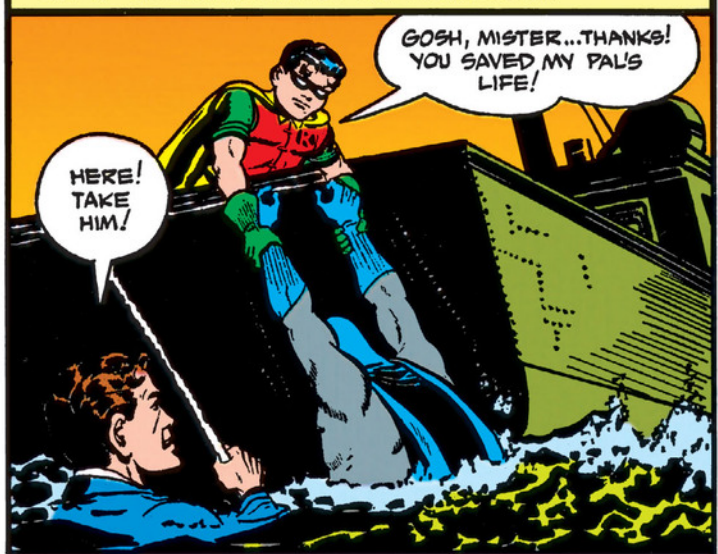


I CAN'T DO IT...

ANGRY WAVES BATTER THE BRAVE TROOPER. YET, SOMEHOW, HE MANAGES TO FIGHT HIS WAY TO THE BATMAN'S SIDE...



... AND BRING HIM BACK TO THE POLICE BOAT!



GOSH, MISTER... THANKS! YOU SAVED MY PAL'S LIFE!

HERE!
TAKE HIM!

LATER THAT NIGHT, AT THE BARRACKS. THE BATMAN SEEKS OUT TOM...



THANKS, BOLTON! YOU KNOW, I CAN'T FIGURE YOU OUT/ YOU HATE ME... AND YET YOU SAVED MY LIFE! WHY?

I'D SAVE A DOG FROM DROWNING! I'M AN OFFICER OF THE LAW... IT'S MY DUTY TO SAVE LIFE... EVEN YOURS.

C'MON, BOLTON... WHY DON'T YOU SKIP THIS HATE STUFF? LET'S SHAKE HANDS AND BE FRIENDS!

I'D RATHER SHAKE HANDS WITH A RATTLESNAKE FIRST...



HE CAN'T TALK TO YOU THAT WAY! I'LL...

EASY, ROBIN... THAT BOY'S CARRYING AROUND A LOT OF TROUBLE AND IT'S UP TO HIM TO GET RID OF IT ALL BY HIMSELF!



ALONE IN HIS ROOM... TOM DRAWS OUT A SMALL STRONGBOX...



BANDIT MIKE NOLAN DEAD!
ROCCO ELUDES CAPTURE.

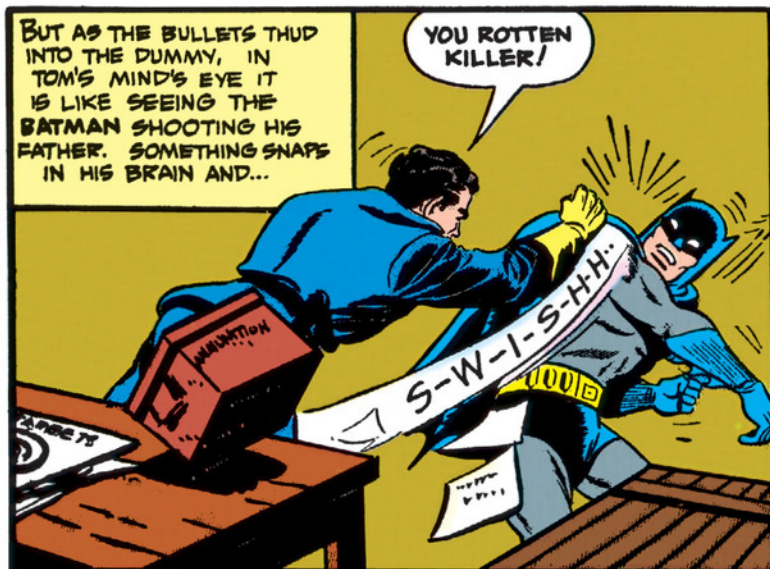
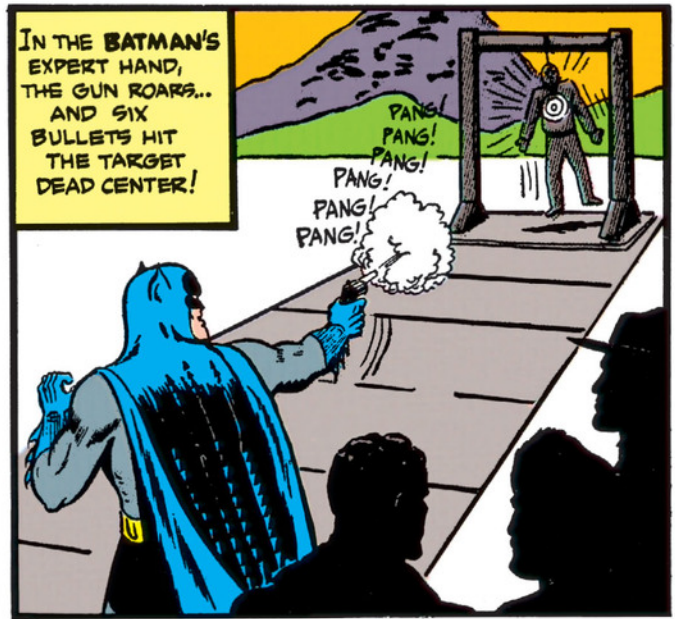
POLICE DISCOVER NOLAN'S BODY SHOT IN THE BACK! NOLAN WITH WEAPON- BATMAN FLEES SCENE AS POLICE ARRIVE.

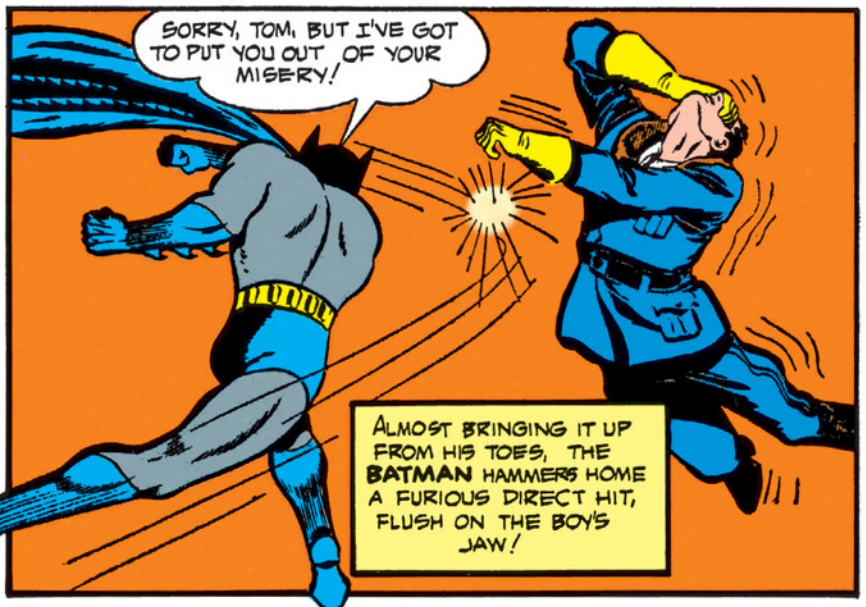
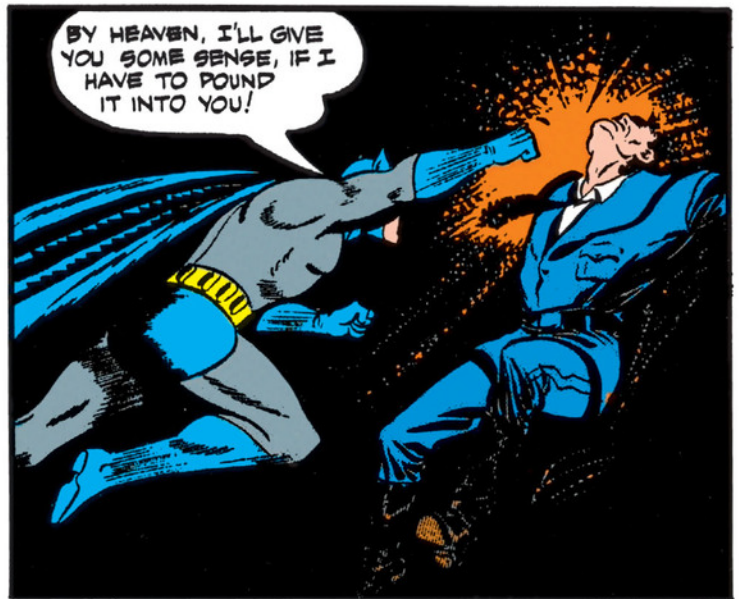
DAD! DAD! I STILL REMEMBER! I ALWAYS WANTED TO BE A POLICEMAN, SO I CHANGED MY NAME... BUT I HAVEN'T FORGOTTEN YOU'RE MY FATHER!

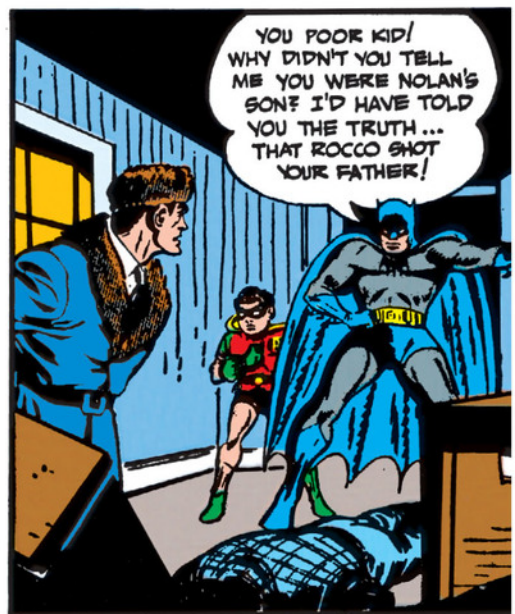
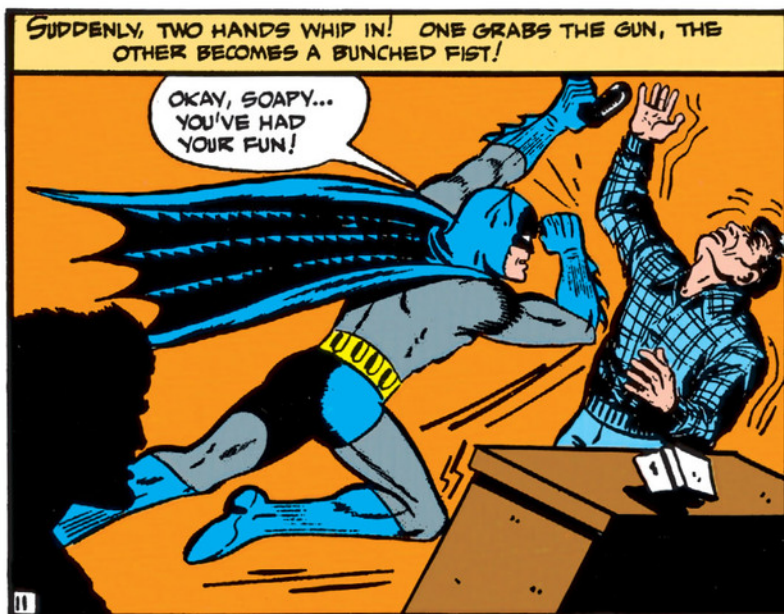
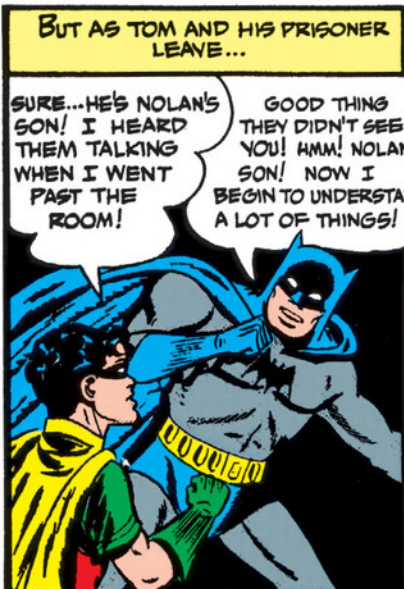
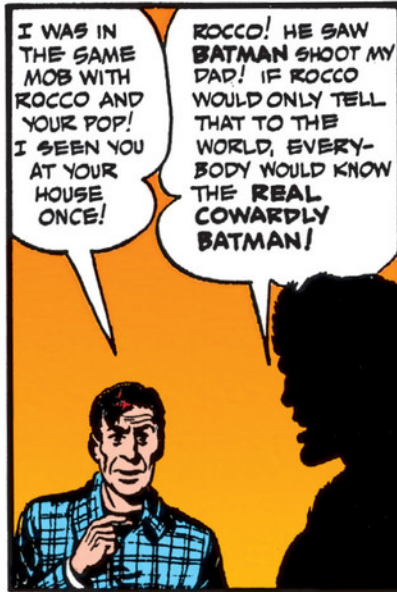


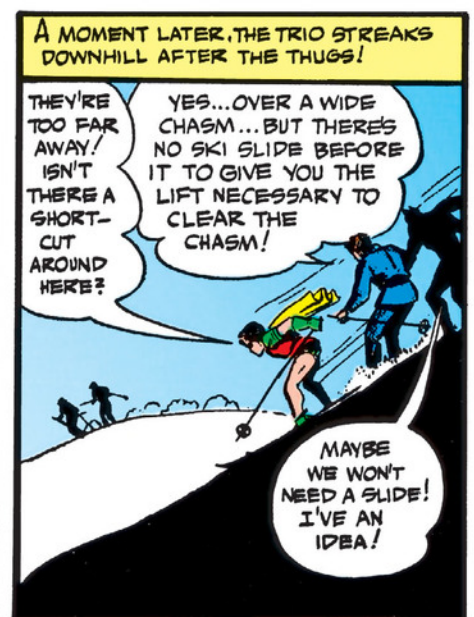
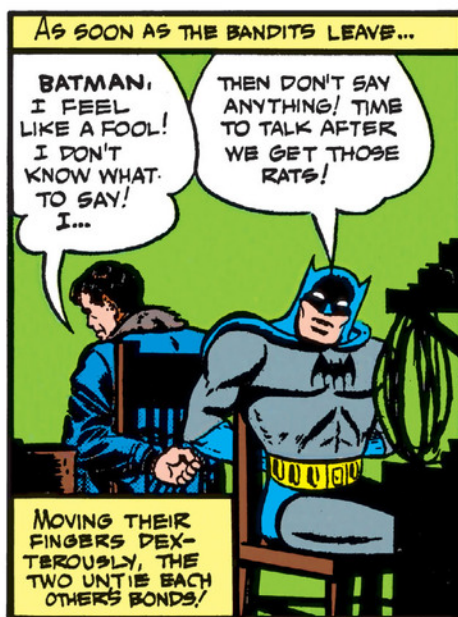
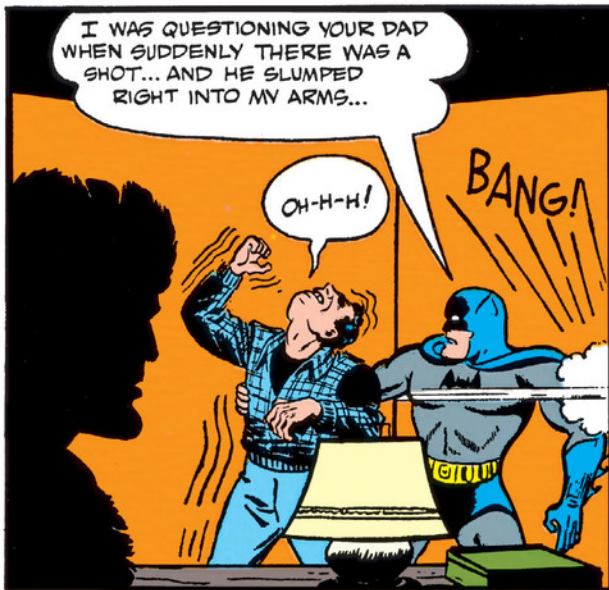
NOR THAT I'M MIKE NOLAN'S SON... AND THAT THE BATMAN SHOT YOU IN THE BACK!











A SCANT MOMENT AFTER, TWO MANTLED FIGURES SHOOT DOWNHILL AT EXPRESS TRAIN SPEED...TOWARD THE OPEN CHASM...

SUDDENLY, ARMS STRETCH OUT... REVEALING THE MANTLE ENDS TIED TO ANKLES! RESULT... WIND-CATCHING SAILS THAT GIVE ENOUGH LIFT TO CLEAR THE CHASM!

THE SHORT-CUT... AND THE TRAILING TEAM SWOOPS BIRD-LIKE UPON THE FUGITIVE BANDITS!

LOOK OUT BELOW!

X MARKS THE SPOT!

THEY CERTAINLY USE HARD WOOD FOR SKIS, DON'T THEY?

I'M PUTTING YOU ON ICE, ROCCO, FOR SOMEBODY ELSE!

HERE! I SAVED HIM FOR YOU!

NO...NO! HELL KILL ME... HE'LL KILL ME!

NO...I'M JUST GOING TO BEAT YOUR HEAD OFF!

THIS IS FOR DAD, AND THIS... AND THIS!

ALL HIS PENT-UP EMOTIONS EXPLODE INTO HATE-CHARGED FURY AS TOM TEARS INTO HIS FATHER'S KILLER!

Later...

THERE! IT'S GONE! THE WEIGHT I'VE CARRIED FOR YEARS! I'M GLAD! I SHOULD HAVE KNOWN THE BATMAN NEVER USES A GUN... I'M SORRY!

SORRY FOR WHAT? FOR HONORING YOUR FATHER'S MEMORY? DON'T BE SORRY, TOM. YOU'RE A GOOD SON... AND A GOOD COP! SO LET'S SHAKE HANDS, PAL!

The End



Having earned the respect of the police force and the fear of criminals, Batman and Robin patrol the streets of Gotham City, protecting the innocent from returning super-villains such as the Joker, Catwoman and Scarecrow. But now the Dynamic Duo will meet an all-new adversary: the Penguin, the enigmatic master criminal who terrorizes the population of Gotham City with his deeds.

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This third volume of **BATMAN: THE GOLDEN AGE** collects the Dark Knight Detective's early adventures from **BATMAN #8-11**, **DETECTIVE COMICS #57-65** and **WORLD'S FINEST COMICS #4-6**.

